REAL
GIRL
8
mao nanami

Mao Nanami

CONTENTS

P004 episode★28 The story about the unforseen incident with my family

P045 episode★29 The story of how I saved my family from crisis

P083 episode★30 The story of the similarities between my dad and me

P121 episode★31 The story of my parents' secret romance

CHARACTERS

Hikari Tsutsui

His nickname is "Tsutsun." He is an otaku who loves the virtual world. Even so, he is asked out by a beautiful girl named Iroha, and takes a shot at a real social life through this relationship. His kohai, Ayado-san, also confessed her feelings to him, but he decisively rejected her.

Iroha Igarashi

A real young girl rumored to be easy with the guys. However, she's serious about her feelings for Tsutsun, asks him out, and is in a relationship with him. She distrusted Tsutsun when he was kind to Ayado-san, but they have since reconciled.

Ito

Tsutsun's best friend and fellow otaku. After Ayado-san rejects him, he abandons the cat ears that had shaped his identity.

Ayado-san

A pretty otaku kohai who had her heart broken by Tsutsun. She became friends with Ito, but rejected him when he confessed his feelings for her...!

Ishino-san

Tsutsun's classmate and reliable life coach. She's been interested in Mitsuya these days.

Mitsuya Takanashi

A vain "man's man" whose advances on Iroha flopped. He has somehow become friends with Tsutsun.

STORY

Third-year student Hikari is an otaku with zero relationship experience. Despite that, he gets asked out by a real girl named Iroha and enters a relationship with her. He's upped his masculinity levels and is living out a "real life" relationship to the fullest. He supported Ito's love for Ayado, but it ends in rejection. They end up on the executive committee of the Cultural Festival, which they've always avoided, and do a good job...

MENU
Hot Dog
Burrito
Special Thanks
assistant
Manami Tada
Toki Sunazuka
Kasumi fujishiro
Yurika Ohyabu
Daisuke Miura
Oromaru
editor
Hiroshi Tsuji
desigh
Akiko Ohmo
And you
2014. 9 Mao Nanami

episode 28

The story about the unforseen incident with my family

REAL GIRL

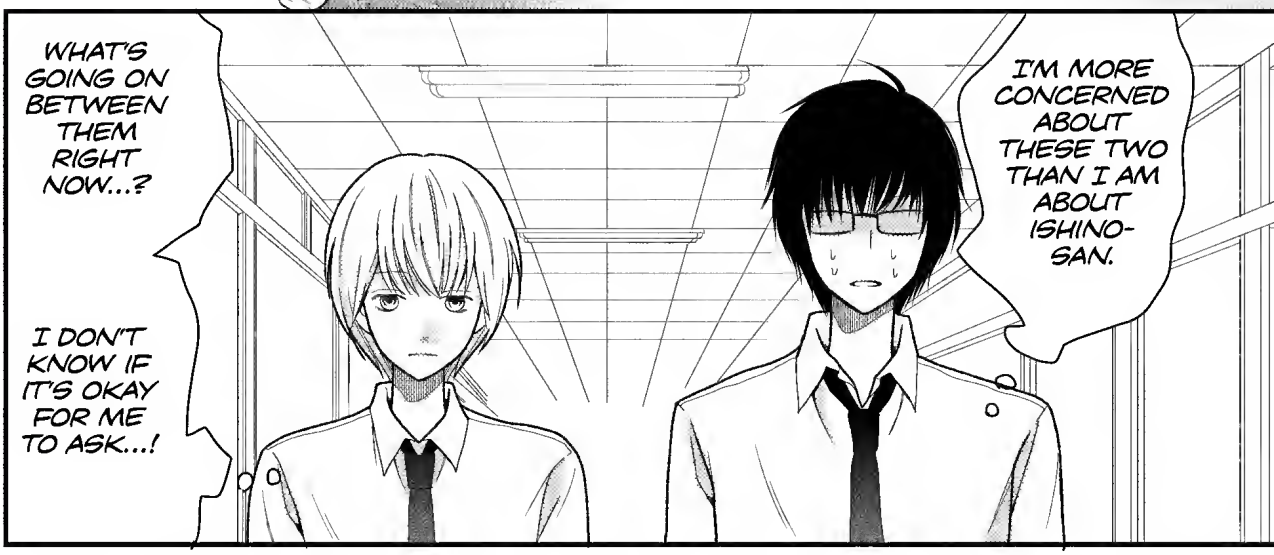
FINALLY...
...PEACEFUL DAYS HAVE RETURNED.

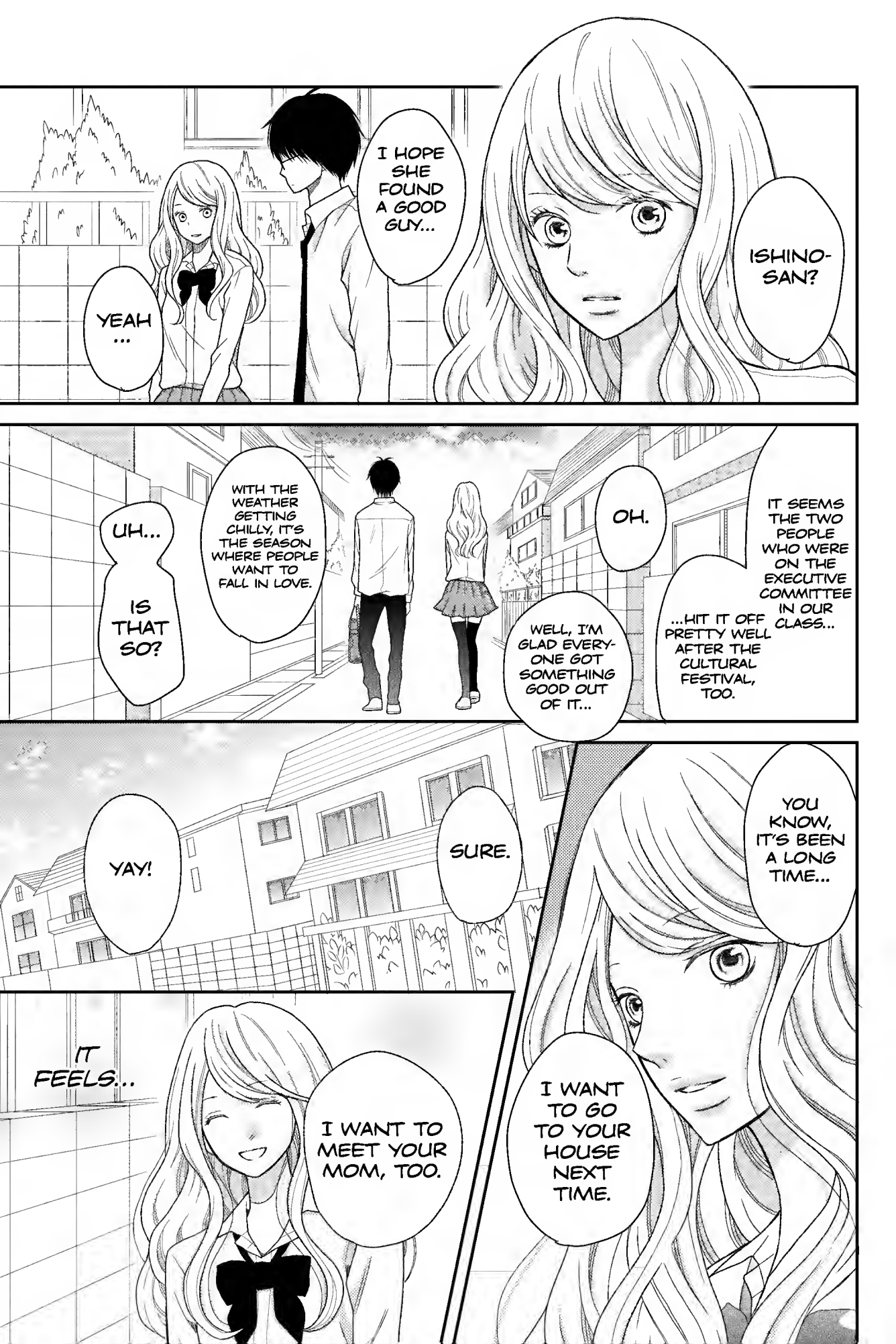
GOOD MORN-ING!
FOR SURE ...
AFTER THE CULTURAL FESTIVAL, IT HIT ME FOR THE FIRST TIME...
HAPPINESS IS AN ORDINARY DAY WITH NOTHING GOING ON.

HM? YOU SEEM DIFFERENT, ISHINO-SAN.
REALLY?
GOOD JOB ON THE CULTURAL FESTIVAL!
YOU'RE GONNA BE LATE FOR CLASS IF YOU DON'T HURRY!
I'VE SEEN ISHINO-SAN LIKE THIS BEFORE...
SHE GETS THIS WAY WHEN SHE'S IN LOVE...
I FEEL LIKE THAT ENERGY WILL ONLY LAST FOR THREE DAYS.
BUT ...
JUST A FEELING...
SAME HERE...

I BET SHE FOUND A CUTE GUY AT THE CULTURAL FESTIVAL AND...
OH... AYADO-SAN...
G...GOOD MORNING, AYADO-SAN...
だっ DASH
UH, GOOD MORNING!!

I KNEW IT...
THAT WAS...
...ITO AND...
...AYADO-SAN...


WHAT'S GOING ON BETWEEN THEM RIGHT NOW...?
I DON'T KNOW IF IT'S OKAY FOR ME TO ASK...!
I'M MORE CONCERNED ABOUT THESE TWO THAN I AM ABOUT ISHINO-SAN.


ISHINO-SAN?
I HOPE SHE FOUND A GOOD GUY...
YEAH...
IT SEEMS THE TWO PEOPLE WHO WERE ON THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE IN OUR CLASS...
...HIT IT OFF PRETTY WELL AFTER THE CULTURAL FESTIVAL, TOO.
OH.
WELL, I'M GLAD EVERY-ONE GOT SOMETHING GOOD OUT OF IT...
WITH THE WEATHER GETTING CHILLY, IT'S THE SEASON WHERE PEOPLE WANT TO FALL IN LOVE.
UH... IS THAT SO?
YOU KNOW, IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME...
I WANT TO GO TO YOUR HOUSE NEXT TIME.
SURE.
YAY!
IT FEELS...
I WANT TO MEET YOUR MOM, TOO.

...PEACE-FUL...
SO PEACEFUL THAT IT'S SCARY...
COULD IT BE 'CAUSE I JUST WENT THROUGH SO MUCH STRESS AT THE FESTIVAL?
I'VE GOT A BAD FEELING... I SHOULD BE CAREFUL.
I'M HOME.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
YOGA.
I HAVE A CLASS REUNION, SO I'M ON A DIET.
NGH...

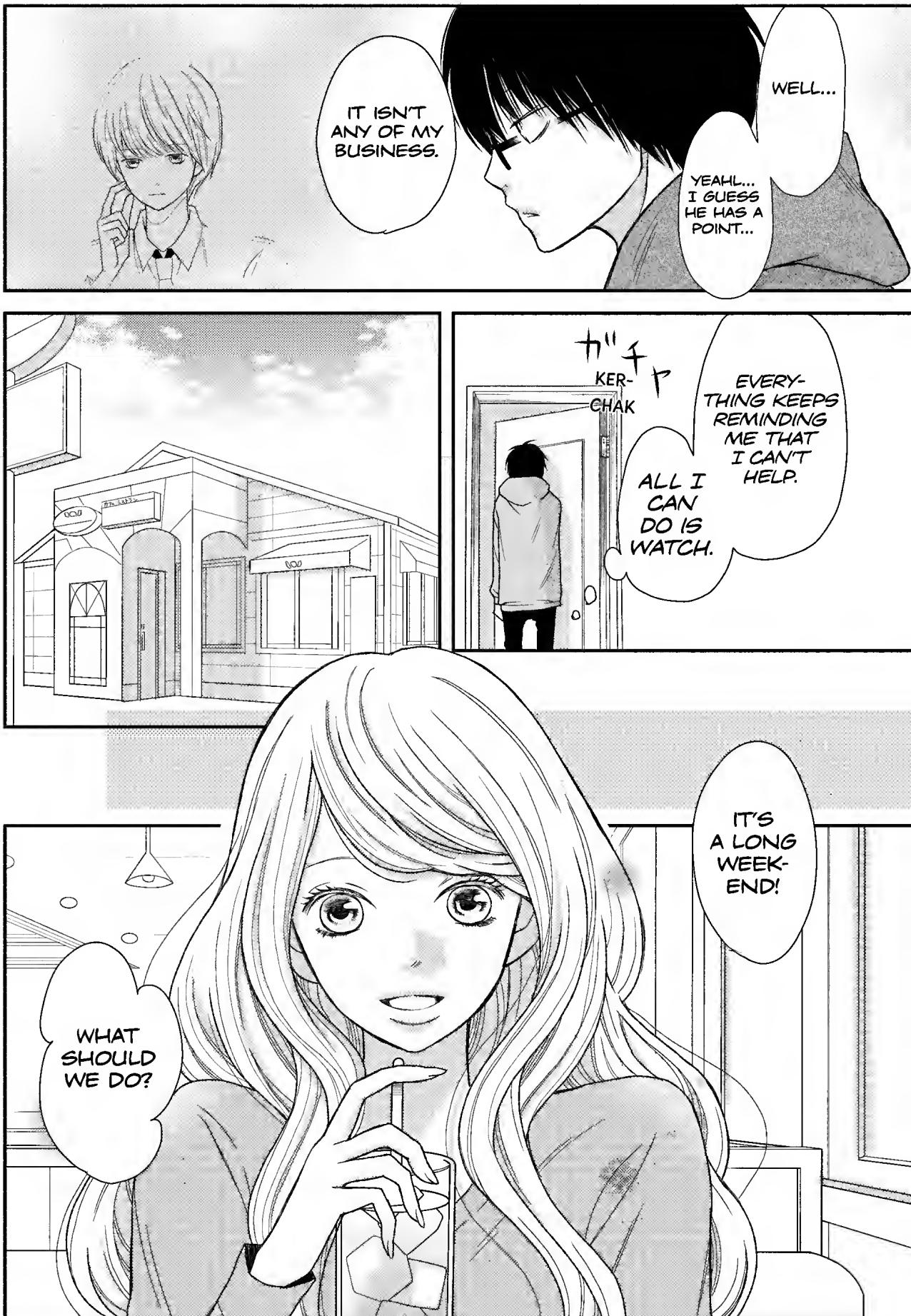
I DON'T THINK YOU'RE GONNA LOOK ALL THAT DIFFERENT EVEN IF YOU LOSE WEIGHT, MOM...
WHAT'S THAT SUP-POSED TO MEAN?
I WAS 20 KILOS LIGHTER WHEN I WAS A STUDENT, AND I WAS SUPER POPULAR TOO.
THAT'S SUCH AN OBVIOUS LIE.
Album
IT'S NOT. SEE FOR YOURSELF.
?!

HUH ...?
WHO IS THIS...?
I'M TELLING YOU, IT'S ME!
N-NO WAY! THERE'S NO WAY THIS IS YOU, MOM!
HOW RUDE!
I WASN'T A MOM ALL MY LIFE, Y'KNOW!
MY BRAIN CAN'T PROCESS WHAT I'M SEEING...
After
Before

WHO'S THIS...?
OH, THAT'S YOUR FATHER.
HE'S SO YOUNG...
IN THOSE DAYS, HE WAS AN ORDINARY RESEARCHER WHO DIDN'T STAND OUT MUCH, BUT...
...HE WAS THE ONE WHO WENT AFTER ME WITH THE MOST PASSION.
HEH HEH HEH...
I...IS THAT SO?
I DIDN'T REALLY WANT TO HEAR ABOUT MY PARENTS' ROMANCE DAYS...
OH, NAKA-KOSHI-SAN! LUNCH NEXT WEEK? YES, YES! IT'S TOTALLY FINE, I CAN LEAVE MY HUSBAND BE. 2 P.M.?! GOT IT!

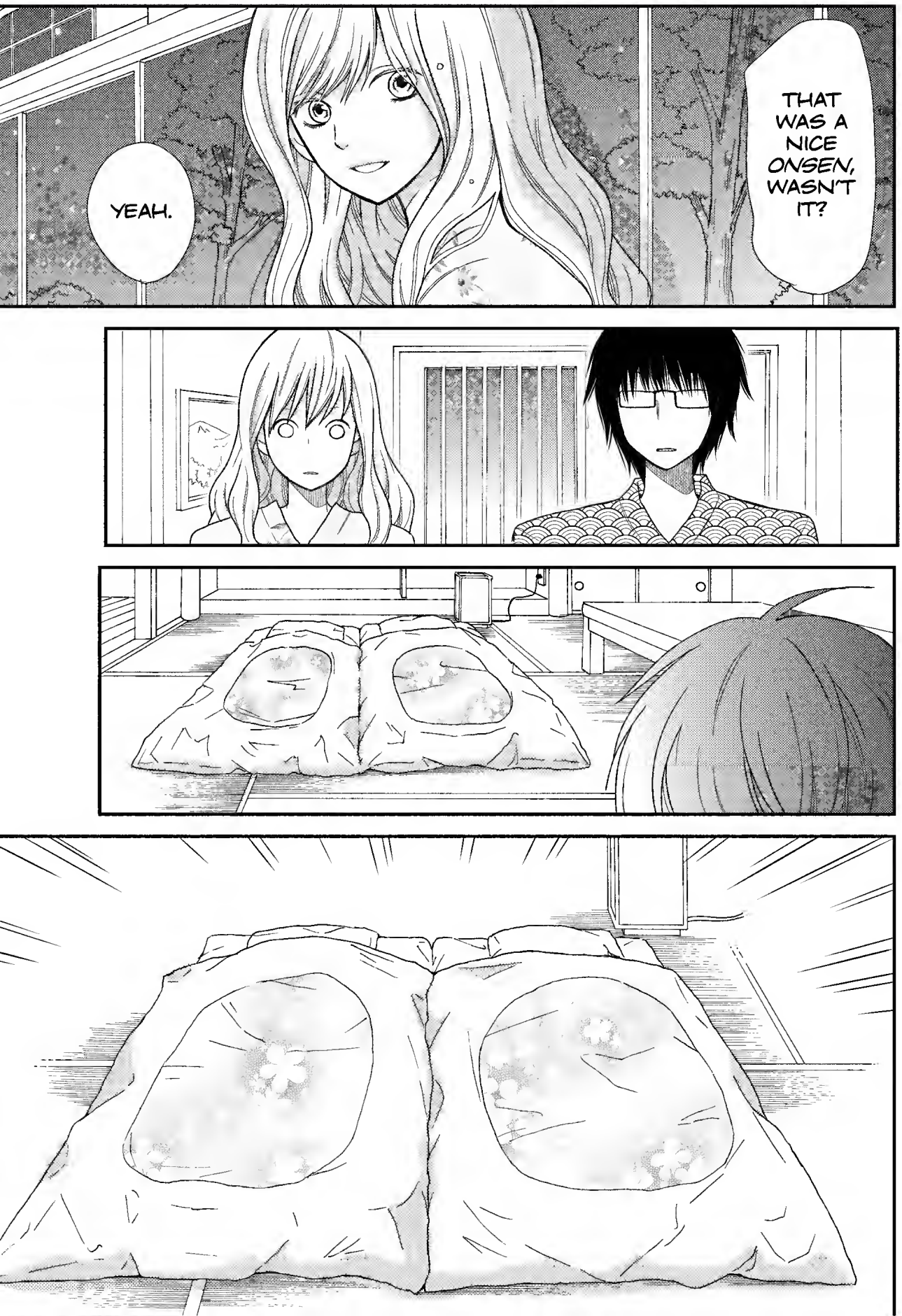
BRO,
ARE YOU THERE?
KNOCK
コンコン
KNOCK
WHAT'S UP? YOU HARDLY EVER COME TALK TO ME!
I HAVE A FAVOR TO ASK.
CAN YOU LEND ME SOME MONEY?
WHAT? I THOUGHT YOU HAD AN ERRAND OR SOMETHING.
ASK MOM!
I CAN'T.
ANZU-CHAN WANTS TO GO TO THE AQUARIUM.
I DON'T WANT TO TELL MOM THAT.
...
EVEN HE'S IN LOVE...

IT HAS TO BE THE AQUARIUM?
NOD
コク
ANZU-CHAN LIKES FISH...
...AND I WANT TO SHOW HER SOME.
FINE.
HERE.
I'LL GIVE BACK WHATEVER'S LEFT OVER, AND PAY BACK THE REST OVER TIME.
'CAUSE I DON'T WANT TO BE IN-DEBTED TO YOU.
THAT'S VERY NICE OF YOU.
...
SO WHAT'S GOING ON BETWEEN YOU AND ANZU-CHAN?
GLARE
NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS.
YOU HAVE THE NERVE TO SAY THAT TO ME AFTER BORROWING MONEY FOR YOUR DATE...
NOT CUTE, AS AL-WAYS.
WHOOSH WHOOSH

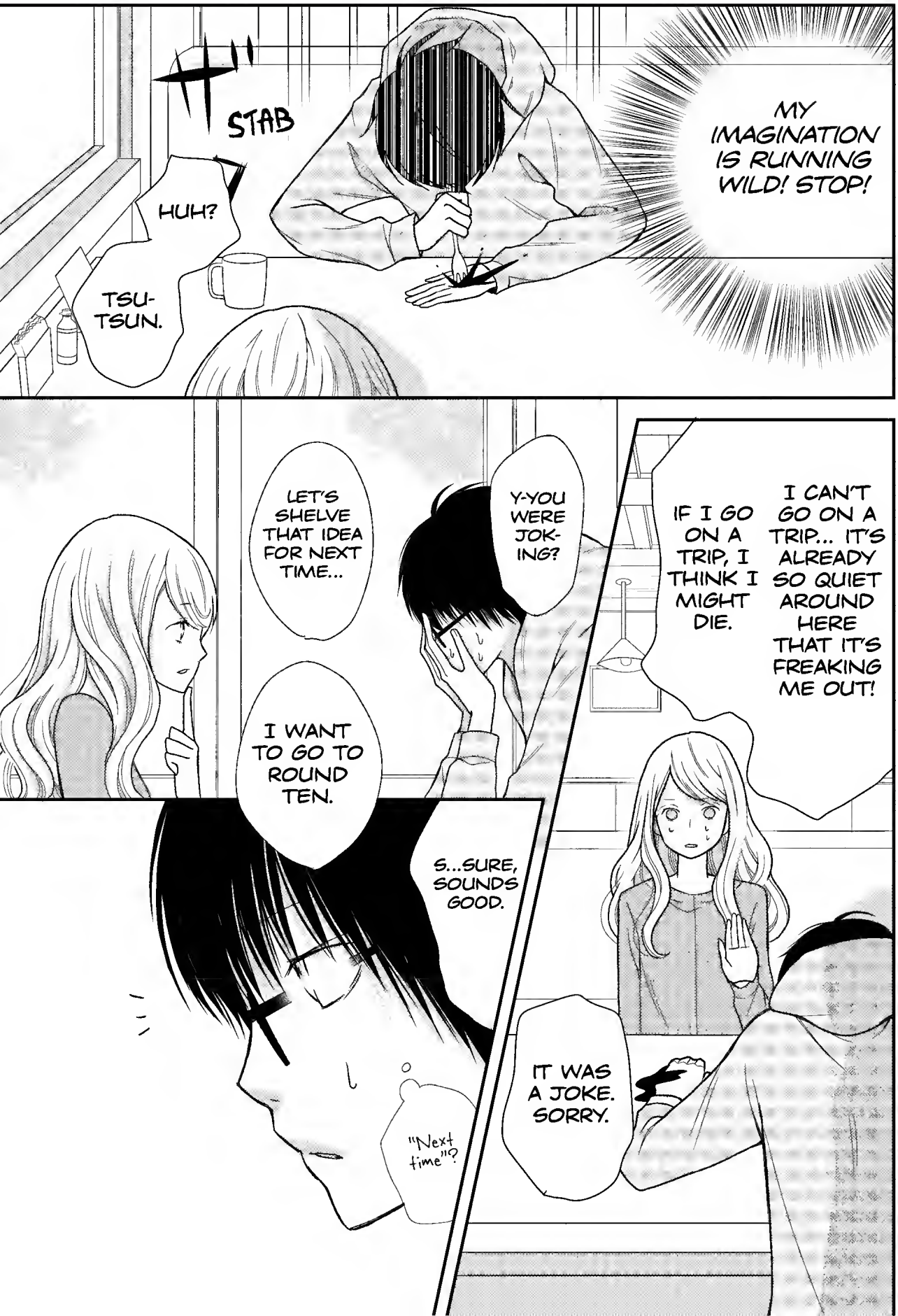

IT ISN'T ANY OF MY BUSINESS.
WELL...
YEAHL... I GUESS HE HAS A POINT...
KER-CHAK
EVERY-THING KEEPS REMINDING ME THAT I CAN'T HELP.
ALL I CAN DO IS WATCH.
IT'S A LONG WEEK-END!
WHAT SHOULD WE DO?

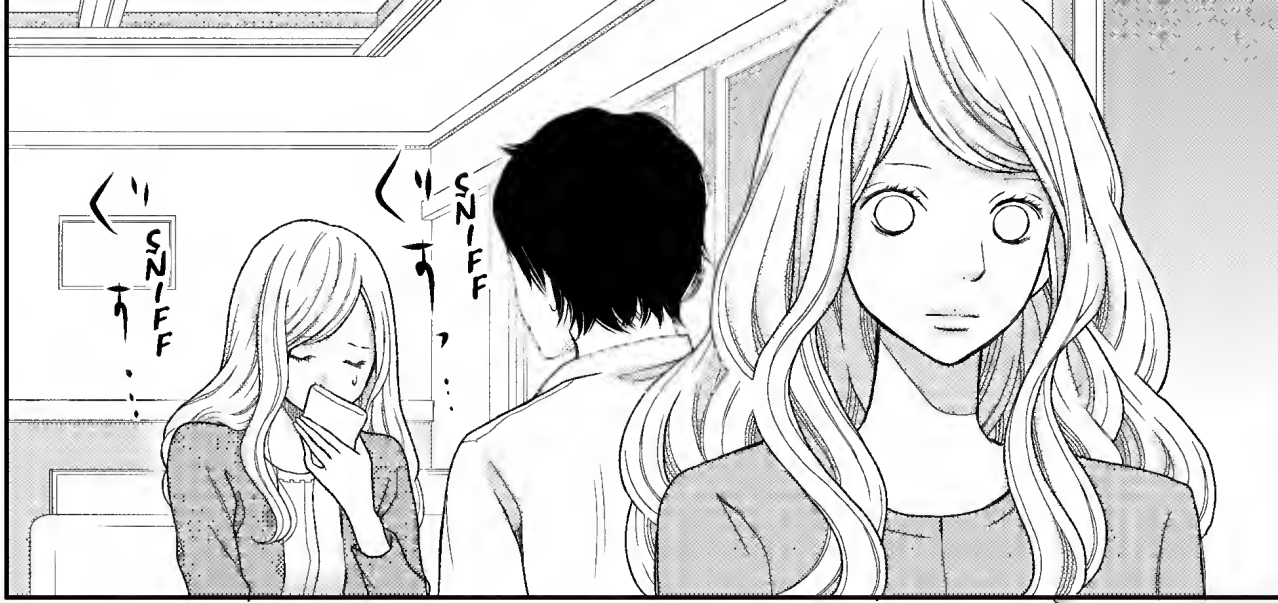
LET'S GO ON A TRIP!
OKAY, THEN...
IF THERE'S ANYTHING YOU WANT TO DO IN PARTICULAR, I'M DOWN.
A TRIP?!
WOW! WHAT A WONDERFUL RYOKAN!

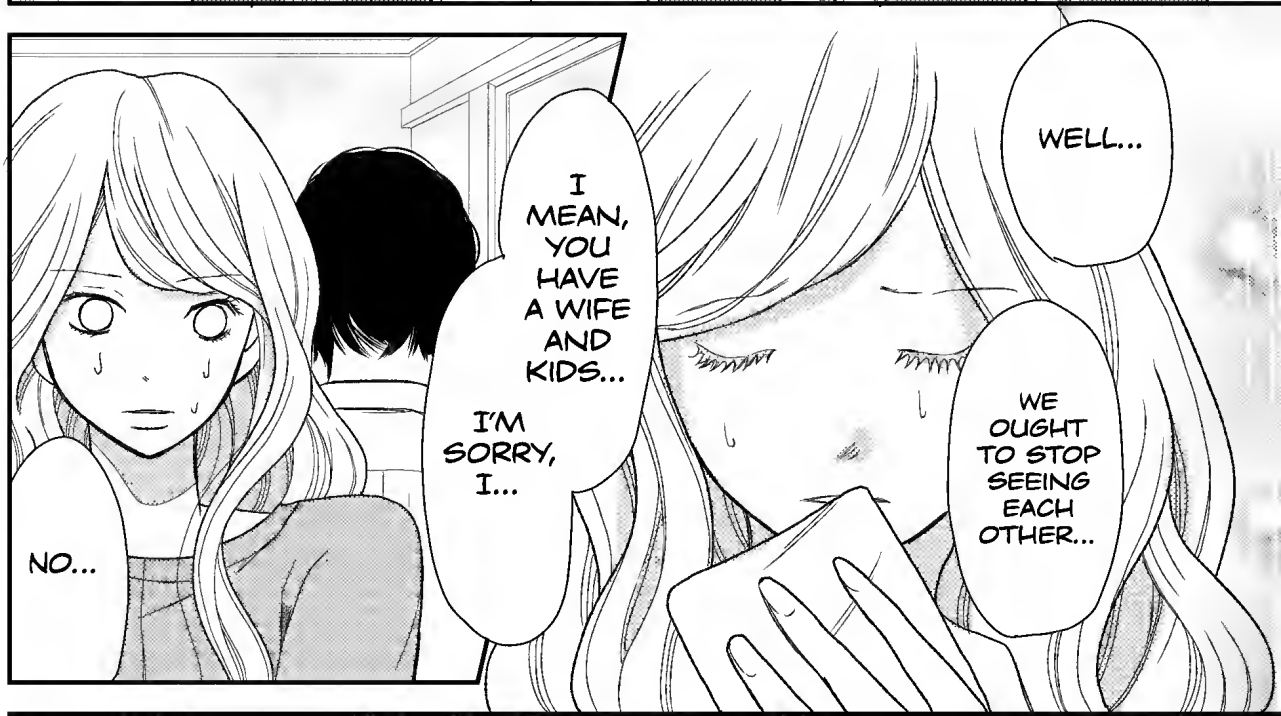
DO I LOOK CUTE IN THIS YUKATA?
CHECK ME OUT!
Y...
YEAH.
YOU DO.
HEH HEH.
OKAY, SEE YA!


YEAH.
THAT WAS A NICE ONSEN, WASN'T IT?

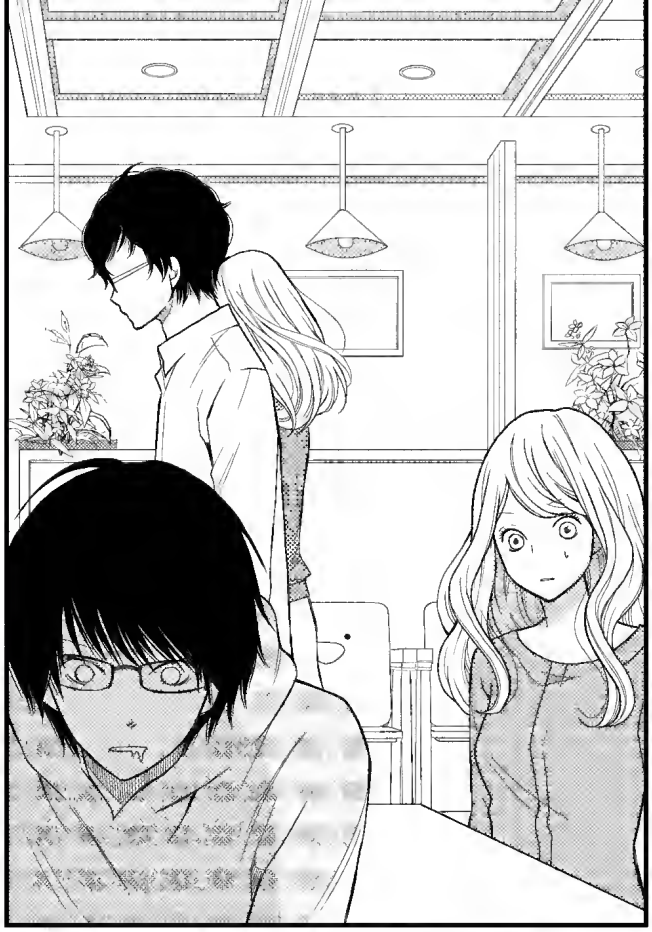
WH... WHAT IS THIS?
WHAT DO I DO?
...THAT I WOULDN'T ...
...DO ANYTHING WITH HER...
I SWORE...
HOLD...


MY IMAGINATION IS RUNNING WILD! STOP!
STAB
HUH?
TSU-TSUN.
I CAN'T GO ON A TRIP... IT'S ALREADY SO QUIET AROUND HERE THAT IT'S FREAKING ME OUT!
IF I GO ON A TRIP, I THINK I MIGHT DIE.
IT WAS A JOKE. SORRY.
Y-YOU WERE JOK-ING?
LET'S SHELVE THAT IDEA FOR NEXT TIME...
S...SURE, SOUNDS GOOD.
I WANT TO GO TO ROUND TEN.
"Next time"?

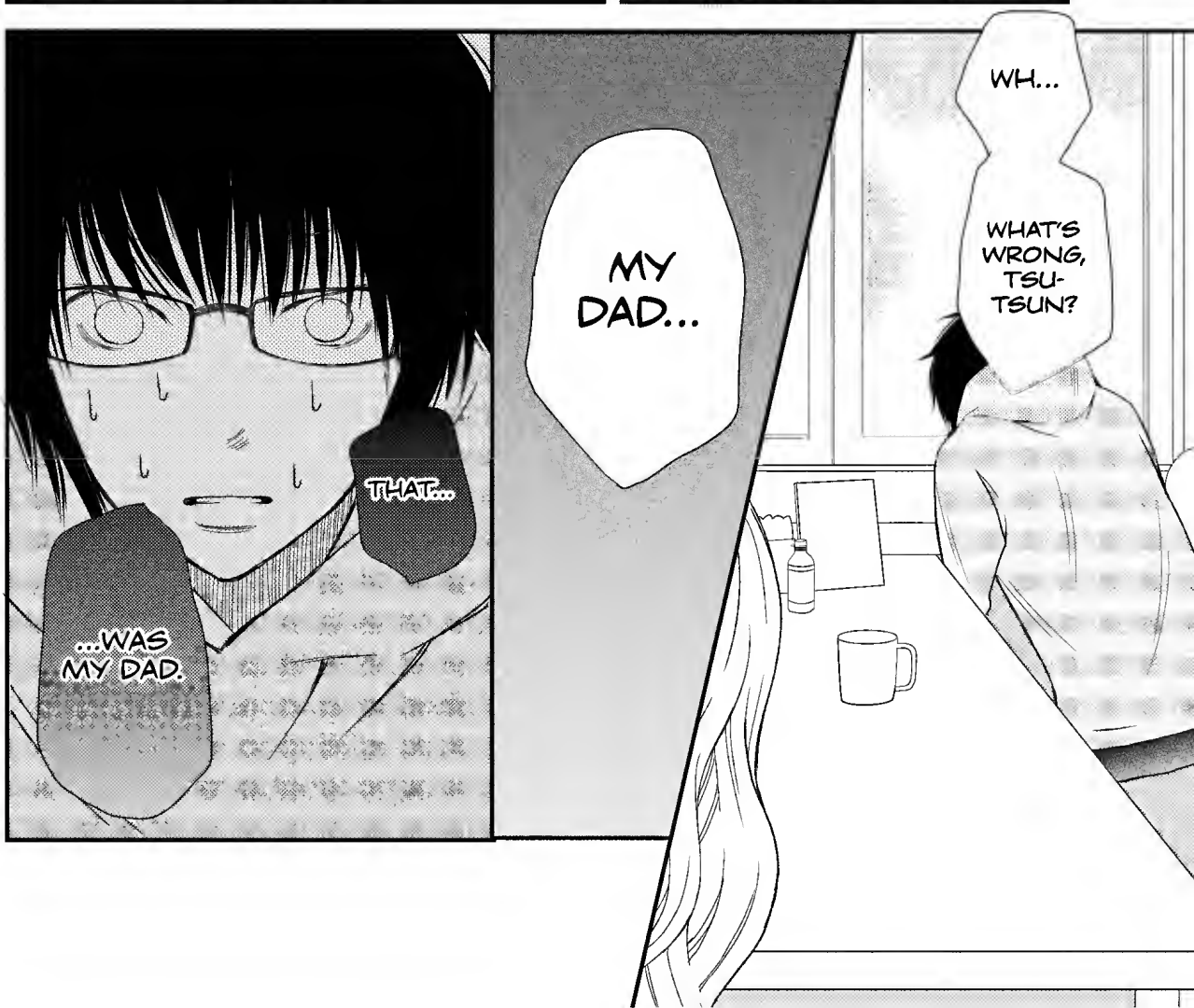

SNIFF
SNIFF


WELL...
WE OUGHT TO STOP SEEING EACH OTHER...
I MEAN, YOU HAVE A WIFE AND KIDS...
I'M SORRY, I...
NO...

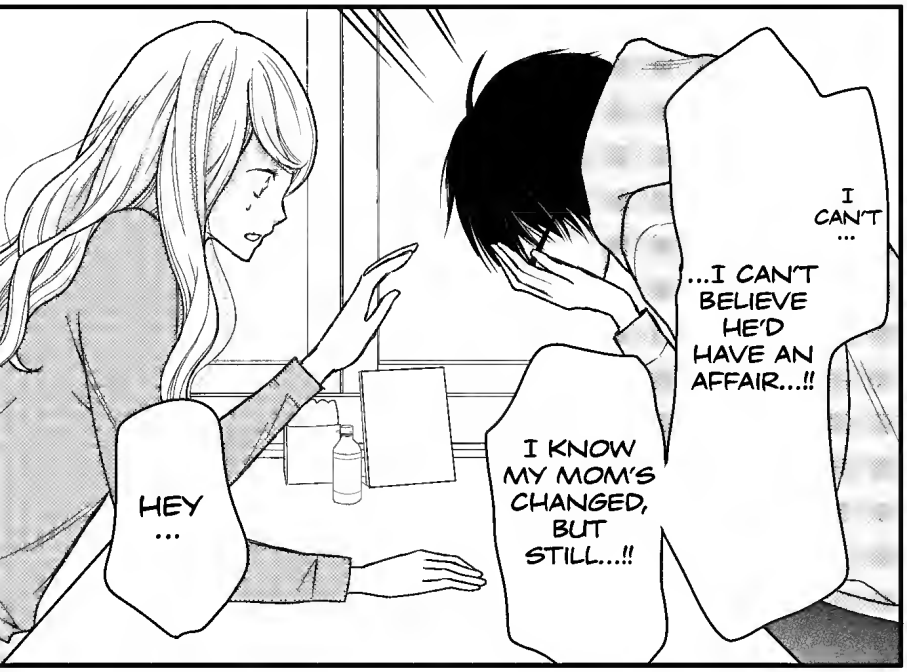
IT'S MY FAULT, TOO.
WH...
WHAT ARE THEY DOING AT A FAMILY RESTAURANT LIKE THIS DURING THE DAY...?
ANYWAY, LET'S GO. I'LL TAKE CARE OF THIS.
SUCH A SKETCHY COUPLE.



PTOO


WH...
WHAT'S WRONG, TSU-TSUN?
MY DAD...
THAT...
...WAS MY DAD.

I DON'T BELIEVE IT...
WHA?
IT CAN'T BE!
YOU MEAN THE GUY THAT JUST...


HEY ...
I KNOW MY MOM'S CHANGED, BUT STILL...!!
I CAN'T ...
...I CAN'T BELIEVE HE'D HAVE AN AFFAIR...!!

Dad: Mitsuru
I THOUGHT HE WAS A BORING GUY WHO JUST DID RESEARCH WITH ADHESIVES.
Worked on adhesives for 22 years

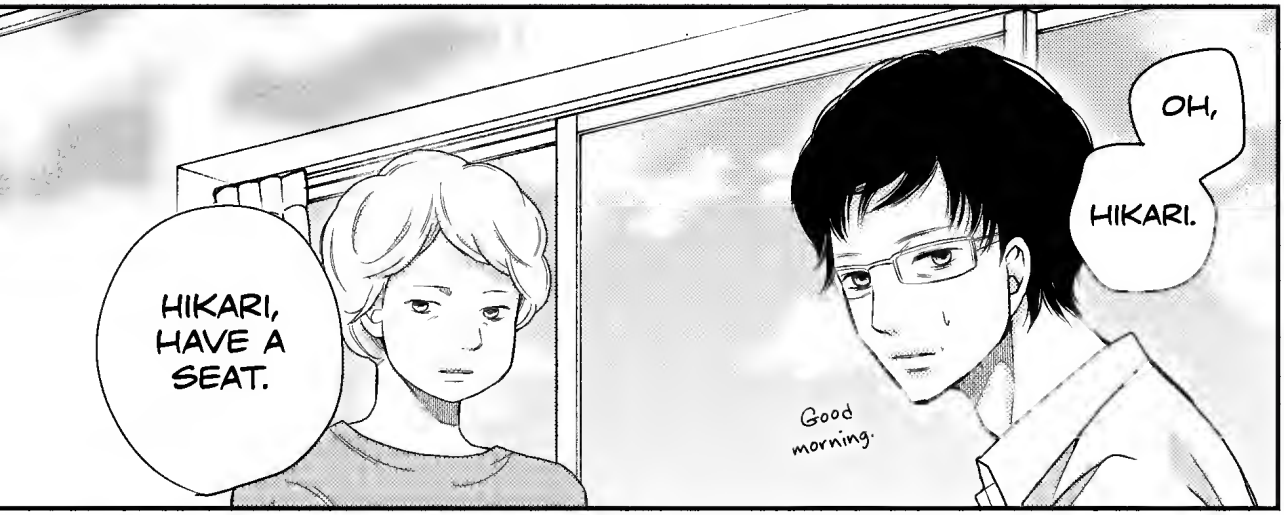
TSU...
TSU-TSUN, IT'S YOUR FAMILY!
YOU HAVE TO GIVE HIM THE BENEFIT OF THE DOUBT!

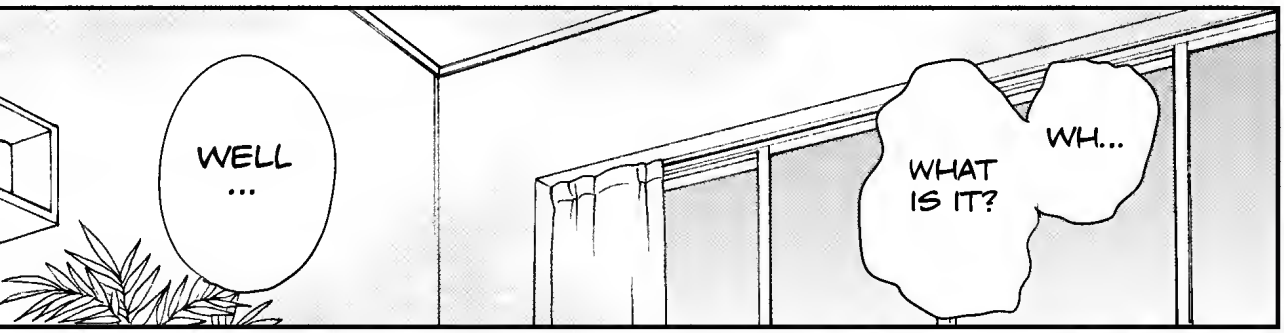
IT...
IT HAS TO BE SOME KIND OF MIS-TAKE!
YOU HEARD THAT JUST NOW!
THAT WAS CLEARLY THE CONVER-SATION OF SOME-ONE WHO WAS CHEATING.
AND HE'S A FATHER OF TWO KIDS...! HE'S THE WORST...!

YEAH!
IT'LL BE ALL RIGHT!
I lost my cool.
SORRY.
Y...YOU'RE RIGHT. MY DAD WOULDN'T ...
I'M HOME...
DO YOU WANT DINNER?
N...
NO...
I'M OKAY.
WEL-COME HOME.
WHAT? REALLY? YOU SHOULD'VE TOLD ME!
S-SOR-RY.
HEY, WAIT, HIKARI!

WHY DOES IT SEEM LIKE I'M DOING SOMETHING WRONG...?
I DIDN'T ASK TO BEAR A BURDEN LIKE THIS...!
DAM-MIT...
バタン
SLAM
CAN I CARRY THIS SECRET TO THE GRAVE...?
N-NO! IN ANY CASE, I HAVE TO BELIEVE...
...THAT MY DAD ISN'T CHEATING!
WOULD SUCH A YOUNG WOMAN BE INTER-ESTED IN MY DAD, ANYWAY?
YEAH.
NO WAY.
I'M GOING TO BED.

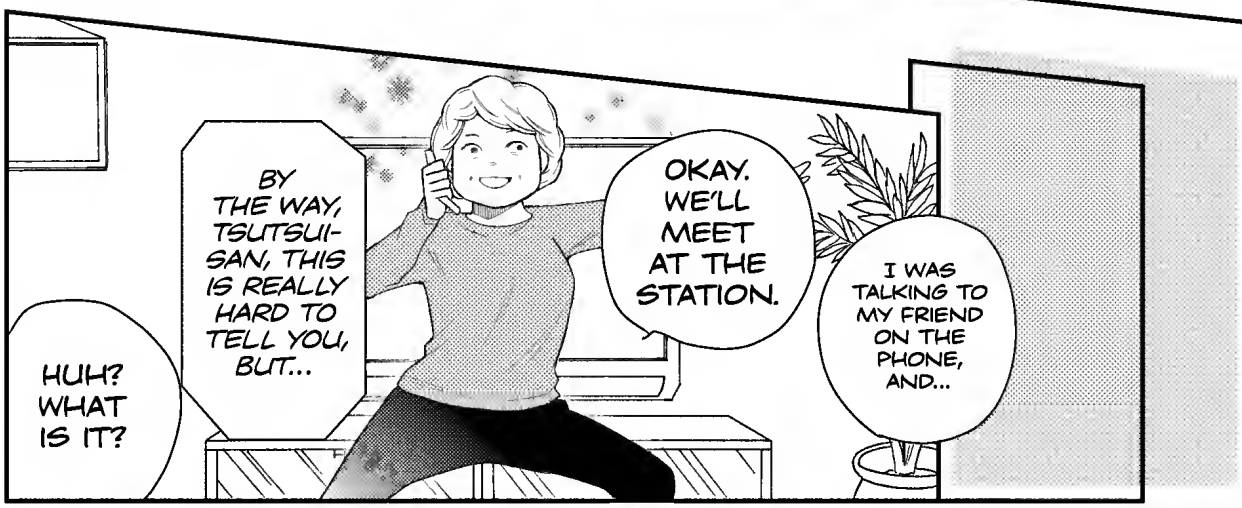
CHIRP
CHIRP
HUH...?
KER-CHAK
WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?

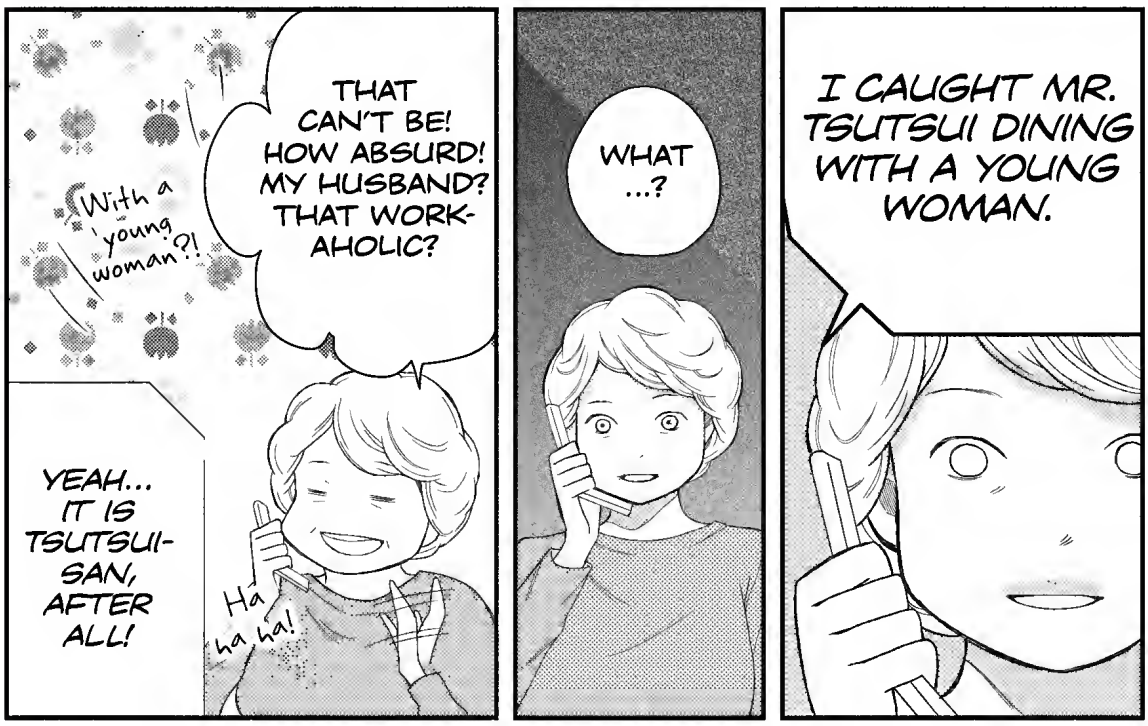

OH,
HIKARI.
Good morning.
HIKARI, HAVE A SEAT.


WH...
WHAT IS IT?
WELL ...

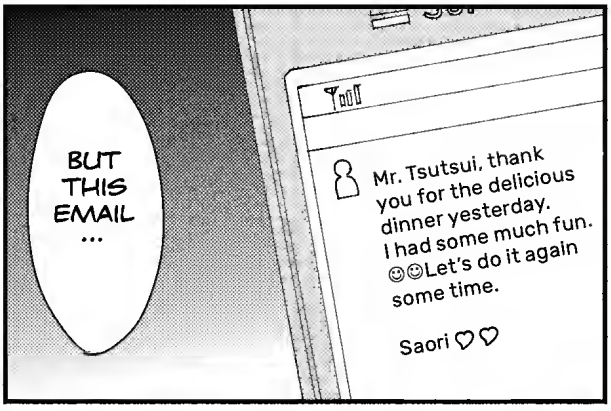
YOUR FATHER'S BEEN HAVING AN AFFAIR.
!!
WHERE ARE YOU GOING, HIKARI?
HUH? WHO, ME?
Sit down!!
DON'T "WHO, ME?" ME!

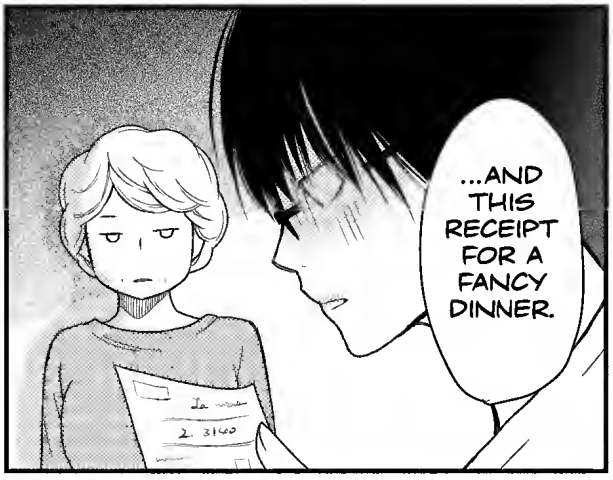
I DO!
YOU MUST BE MISTAKEN. DO YOU HAVE PROOF?

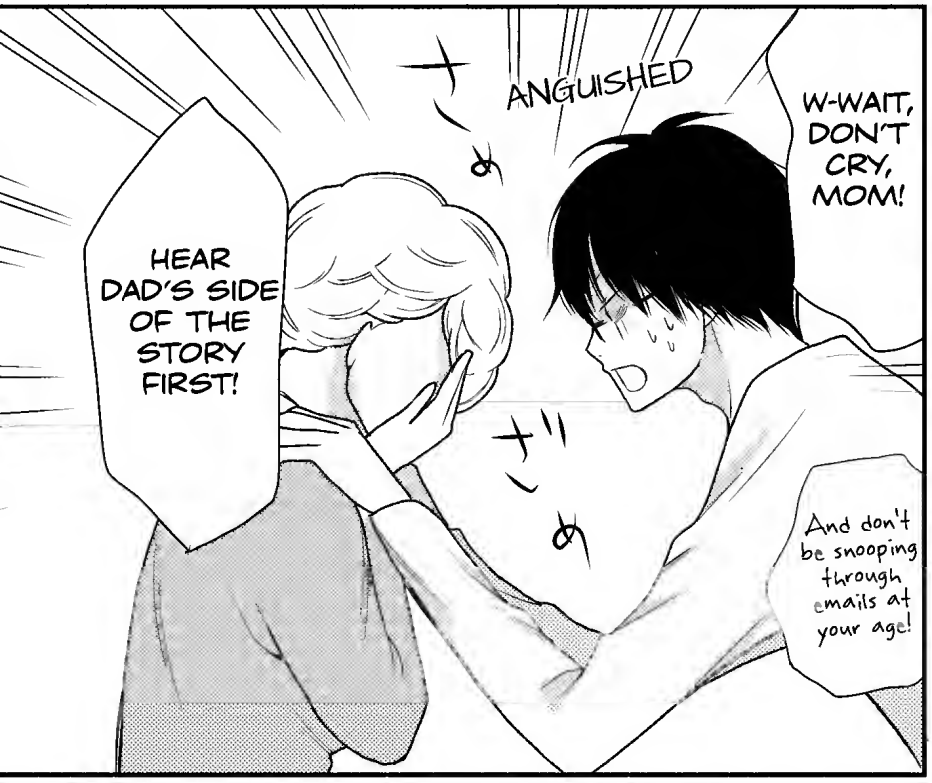

HUH? WHAT IS IT?
BY THE WAY, TSUTSUI-SAN, THIS IS REALLY HARD TO TELL YOU, BUT...
OKAY. WE'LL MEET AT THE STATION.
I WAS TALKING TO MY FRIEND ON THE PHONE, AND...


YEAH... IT IS TSUTSUI-SAN, AFTER ALL!
With a young woman?!
THAT CAN'T BE! HOW ABSURD! MY HUSBAND? THAT WORK-AHOLIC?
Ha ha ha!
WHAT ...?
I CAUGHT MR. TSUTSUI DINING WITH A YOUNG WOMAN.

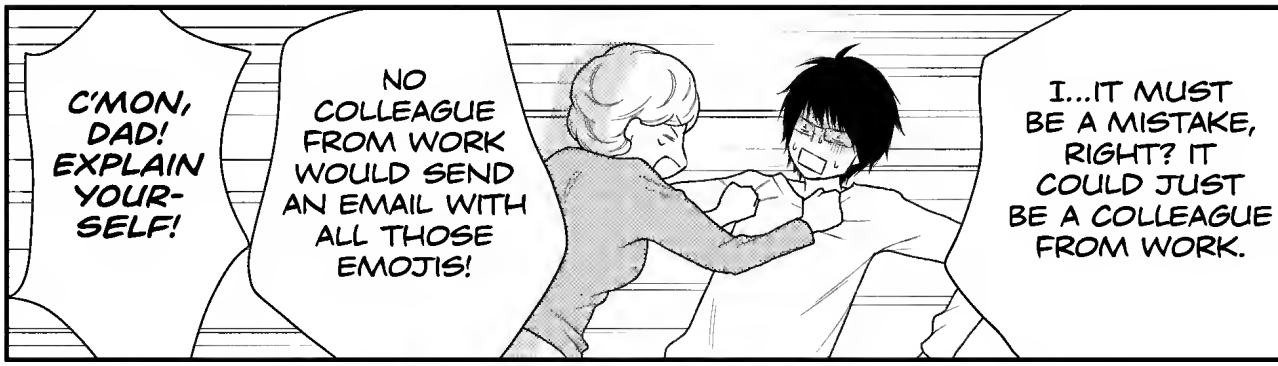
IT'S ALL PROOF.

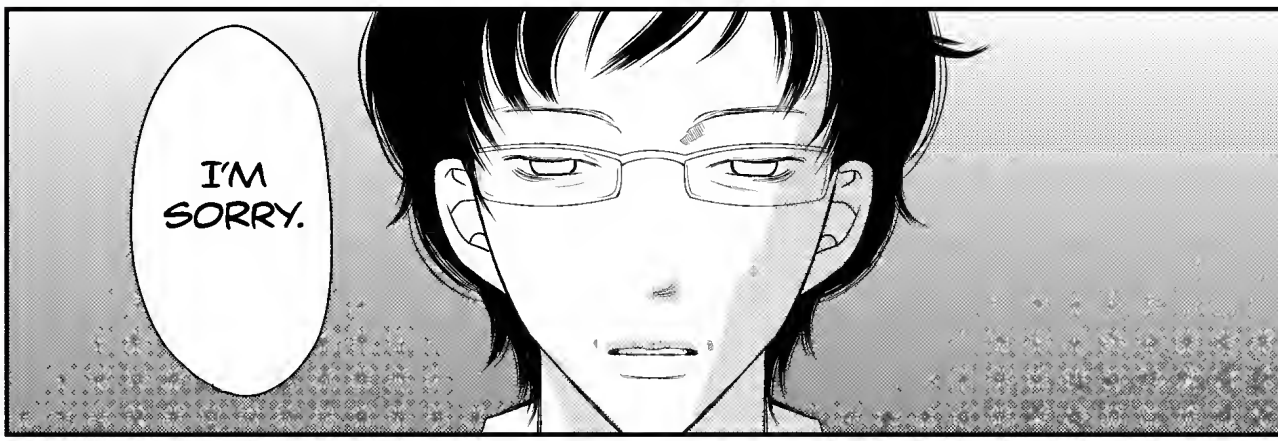

BUT THIS EMAIL ...
Mr. Tsutsui, thank you for the delicious dinner yesterday. I had some much fun. ☺☺Let's do it again some time.
Saori ♡♡

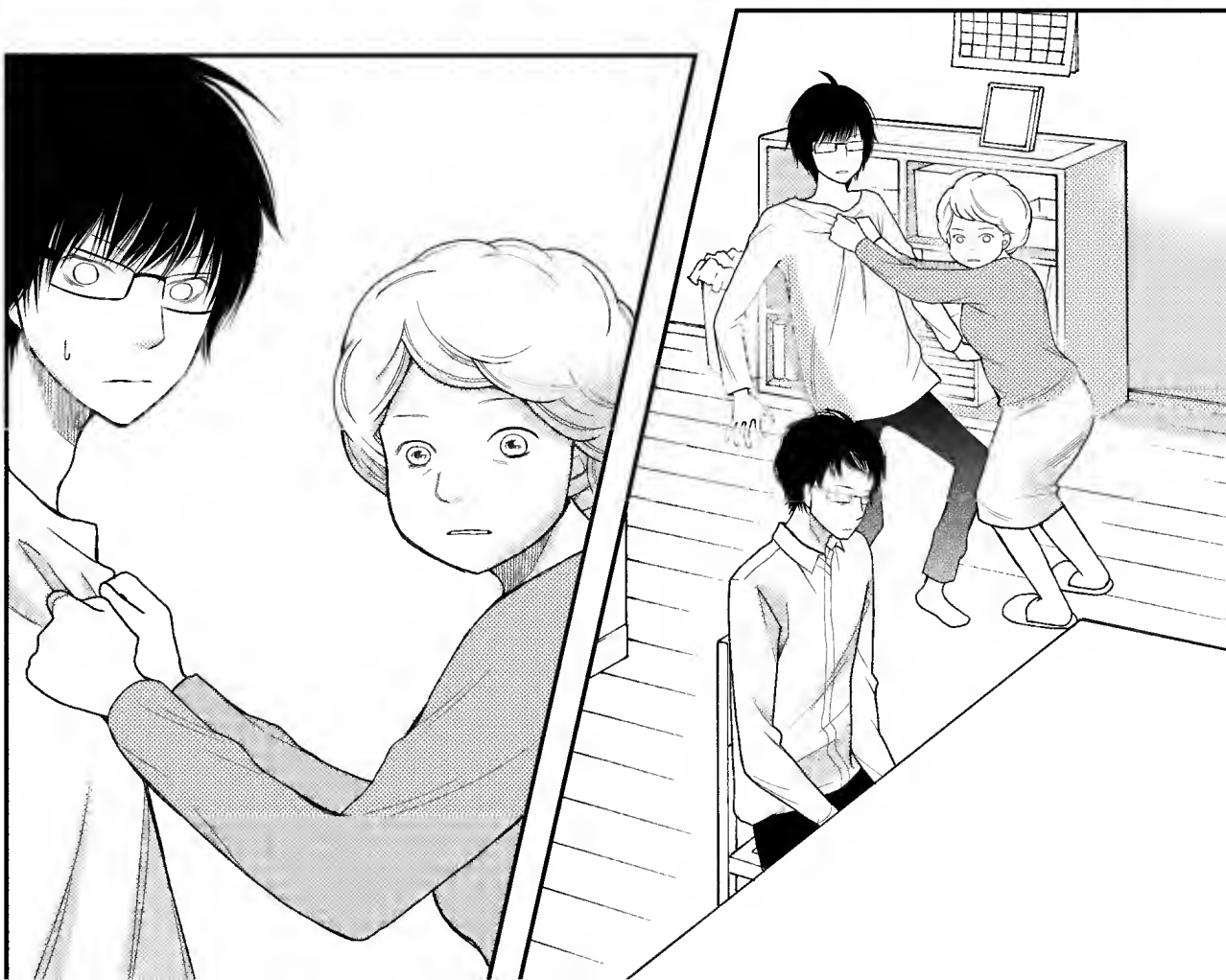

...AND THIS RECEIPT FOR A FANCY DINNER.


ANGUISHED
W-WAIT, DON'T CRY, MOM!
HEAR DAD'S SIDE OF THE STORY FIRST!
And don't be snooping through emails at your age!

I...
I'VE BEEN BETRAYED ...!


I...IT MUST BE A MISTAKE, RIGHT? IT COULD JUST BE A COLLEAGUE FROM WORK.
NO COLLEAGUE FROM WORK WOULD SEND AN EMAIL WITH ALL THOSE EMOJIS!
C'MON, DAD! EXPLAIN YOUR-SELF!

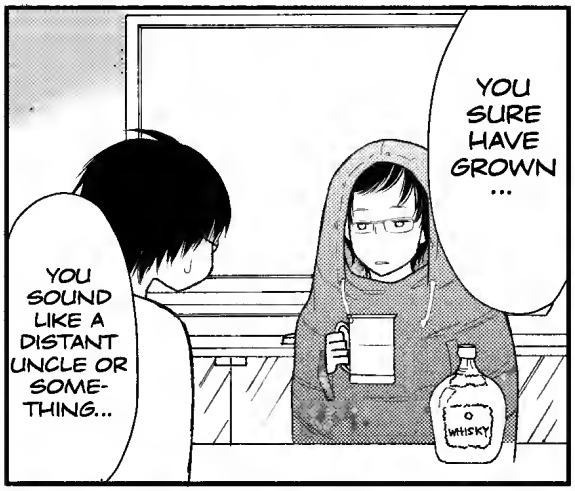

I'M SORRY.

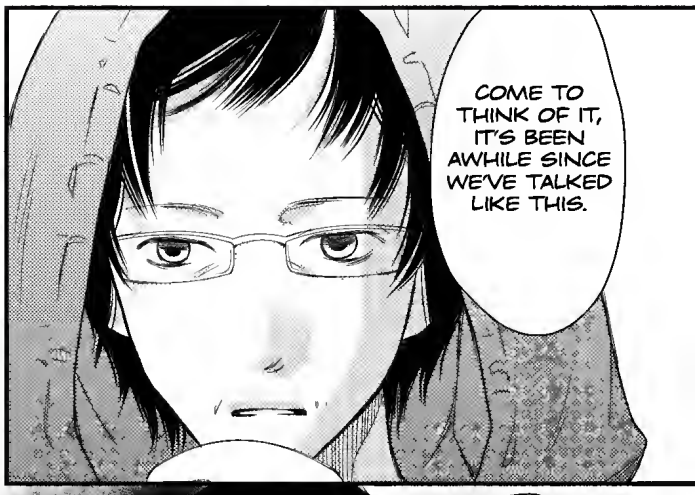


わぁ
BAWL
あぁん
I TRUSTED YOU FOR TWENTY YEARS...
SOB
えぐっ
W...
WHOA... MY FAMILY'S TURNED INTO A DAYTIME DRAMA.
アハハハハ!
HA HA HA HA!
WHAT'S GOING ON?
Checked out
パタン
SLAM

GLOOM
ズーン
WHAT'S GONNA HAPPEN TO MY FAMILY ...?
IS IT GONNA BE STRAINED FOR THE NEXT WHILE?
I CAN'T BEAR THAT!
I GUESS THIS ISN'T REALLY THE TIME TO CALL HER OVER AND HAVE A RELAXING TIME...
WHAT ARE YOU DOING? YOU'RE IN THE WAY.
DON'T GO TO THE LIVING ROOM RIGHT NOW.
MAYBE I SHOULD MAKE SOME SWEETS AND GO TO THE PARK.
Get out of the way.
ドスドス
THUD THUD
I DON'T WANT TO STAY AT HOME...
Ow, ow! Don't kick!

OH, WHAT ARE YOU DOING UP IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT?
UH, WHY...
...DO YOU LOOK LIKE YOU'RE CAMP-ING?
WHISKY
LET'S SEE...I CAN MAKE COOKIES AND CHIFFON CAKE WITH WHAT'S AT HOME NOW.
DAD ...
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO ABOUT THIS?!
I DON'T KNOW... IT'S UP TO YOUR MOTHER.
I DON'T HAVE THE RIGHT TO SAY ANYTHING, ANYWAY.
...
IT SEEMS YOUR MOTHER DOESN'T WANT ME TO SLEEP IN THE SAME ROOM AS HER.
IT'S TRUE THAT I WAS SEEING ANOTHER WOMAN, SO I CAN'T MAKE EXCUSES THERE...
Don't be so casual about it.
...SO ALL I CAN DO IS APOLO-GIZE.


YOU SURE HAVE GROWN ...
YOU SOUND LIKE A DISTANT UNCLE OR SOME-THING...
WHISKY

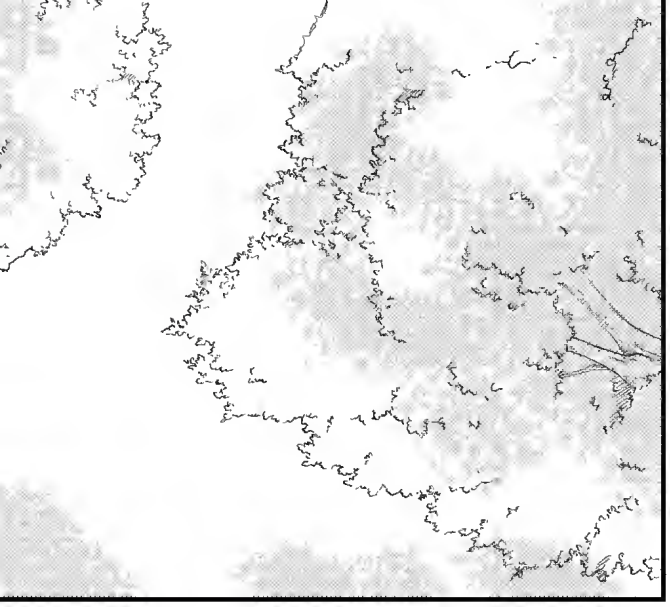

COME TO THINK OF IT, IT'S BEEN AWHILE SINCE WE'VE TALKED LIKE THIS.

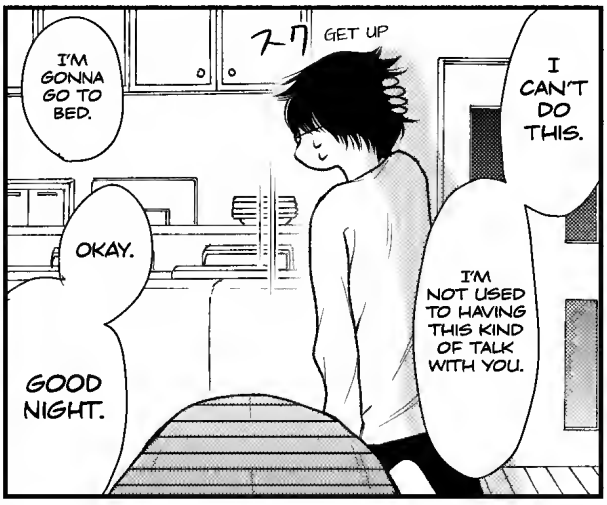
I'LL DO WHAT I CAN TO RESOLVE THIS QUICKLY.
YEAH. SORRY.
THANK YOU.

ALTHOUGH, I WAS PRETTY SHOCKED, TO BE HONEST...
EVEN IF THERE WAS DRAMA GOING ON OUT-SIDE...
...MY HOME LIFE WAS ALWAYS PEACE-FUL...

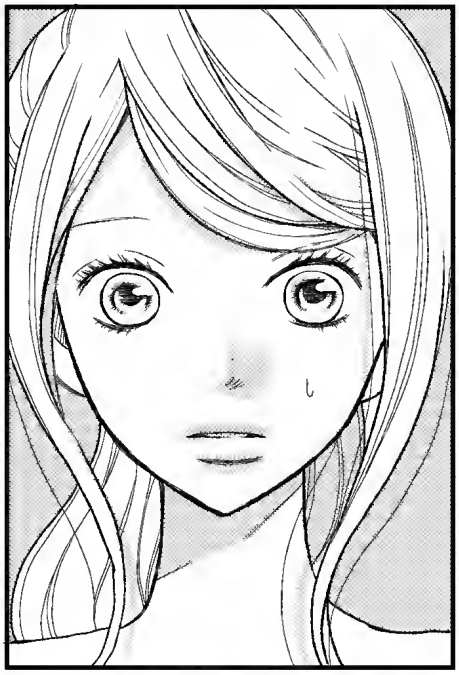
UH, SURE ...
THOUGH I HEARD THAT QUITE A BIT AGO, I'M GLAD.

BY THE WAY, HIKARI, I HEARD YOU GOT A GIRL-FRIEND.
HUH?
UH, ER, YEAH,




I'M GONNA GO TO BED.
GET UP
I CAN'T DO THIS.
OKAY.
I'M NOT USED TO HAVING THIS KIND OF TALK WITH YOU.
GOOD NIGHT.

SUNNY
SUNNY
BUT, UH, IS NOW REALLY THE TIME TO BE HANGING OUT WITH ME...?
I...
I SEE...
I WAS WONDERING WHY YOU SUDDENLY WANTED TO GO TO THE PARK...
THERE'S NOTHING I CAN DO EVEN IF I WERE AT HOME.



SURE ENOUGH, IT WAS THE CALM BEFORE THE STORM...
WHEN EVERY-THING'S GOING RIGHT, SOME-THING BAD IS SURE TO HAPPEN.
THAT'S JUST HOW MY LIFE IS.

I ONLY REALLY FEEL AT PEACE WHEN I'M WITH YOU.
IF SOME-THING HAPPENS, TELL ME, OKAY?
NO MATTER WHERE YOU ARE, I'LL GO THERE.
NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT...
MOM AND DAD ALSO MUST HAVE HAD A SEASON LIKE OURS.
IN THAT CASE, I HAVE A FEELING EVERY-THING WILL BE ALL RIGHT...
YEAH.
WE'VE HAD PLENTY OF FIGHTS.

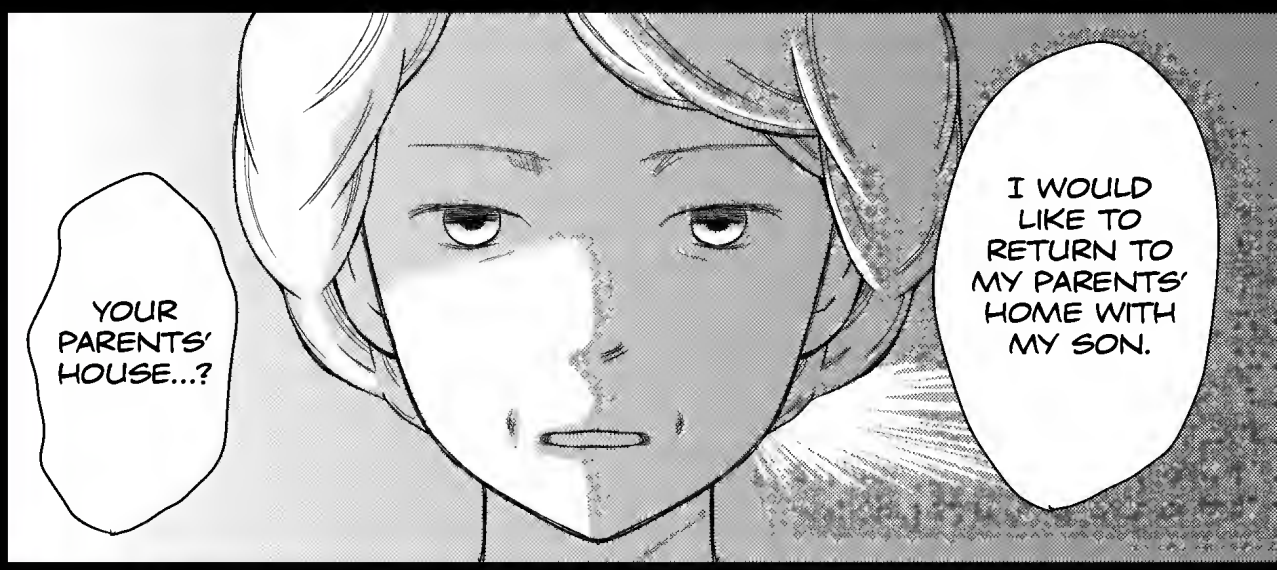
TWENTY YEARS TOGETHER WILL DEVELOP A MARITAL BOND THAT WE CAN'T EVEN IMAGINE.
I'M SURE IT WILL BE ALL RIGHT.
YEAH...
REGISTRATION OF DIVORCE
離婚届
平成 年 月 日届出
長殿
送付
第
書類調査
戸籍記載
WH...
WHY DO YOU GUYS HAVE THIS?!
WHAT ABOUT YOUR MARITAL BOND?!

THINK CAREFULLY ABOUT WHAT YOU'RE DOING, MOM.
I DID THINK CAREFULLY ABOUT IT.
BUT IT'S BECAUSE WE HAD A BOND... BECAUSE I TRUSTED HIM...
...THAT I CAN'T FORGIVE WHAT HE DID.
I TOILED AS A HOUSEWIFE UNTIL I ENDED UP LOOKING LIKE ONE...
I CAN'T GO ON LIKE THIS KNOWING HE WAS UNFAITHFUL.
A... AND THAT WAS 'CAUSE OF DAD...?
THIS HAPPENS TO A WOMAN WHEN SHE'S LEFT ALONE
?

EVEN IF YOUR FATHER WAS BUSY, CAME HOME LATE, AND SLEPT IN ON HIS DAYS OFF...
I WAS FINE WITH IT BECAUSE I THOUGHT HE WAS WORKING HARD FOR THE FAMILY.
BUT HOW CAN I FACE HIM NOW?

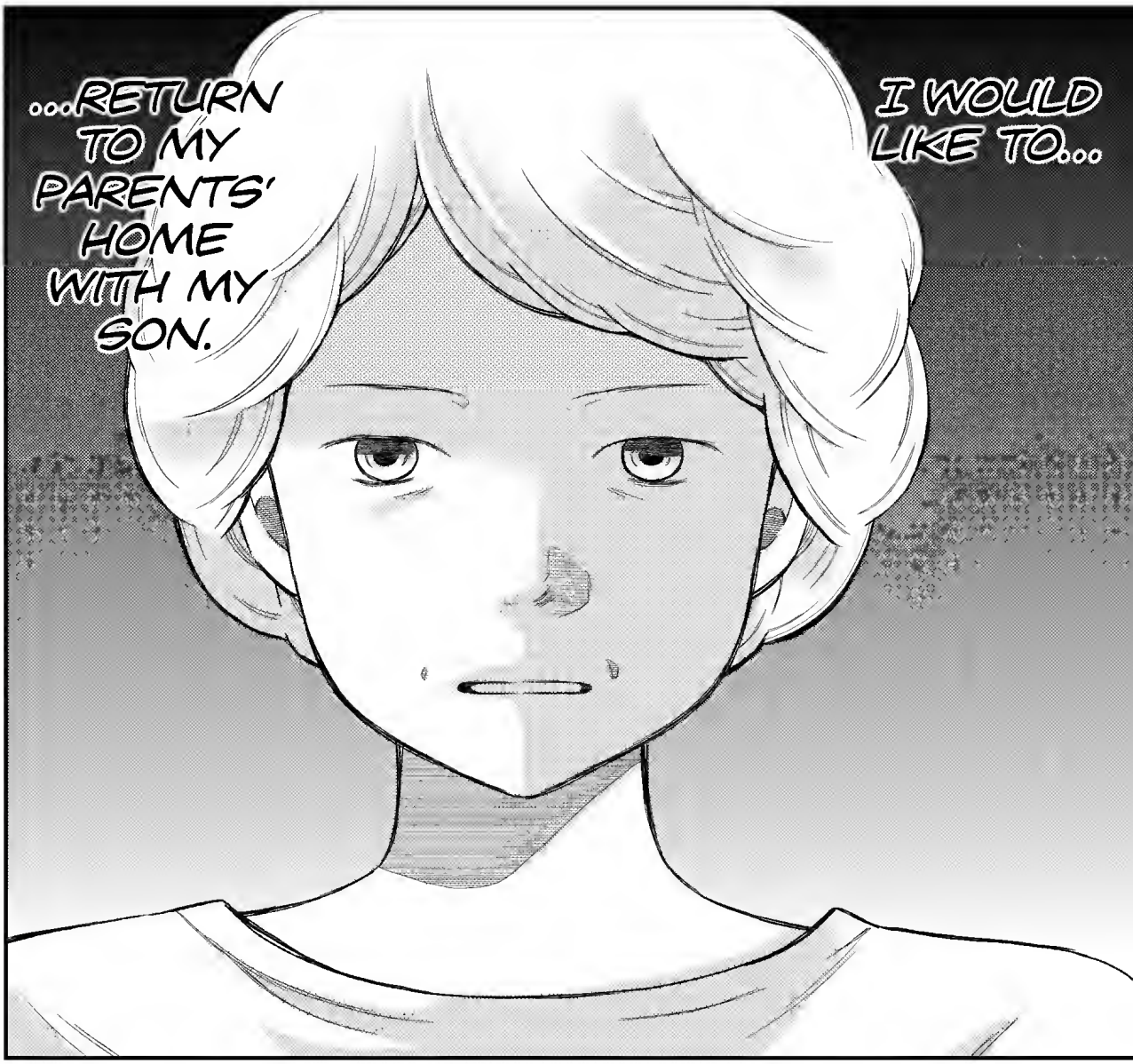
I'M SORRY.
D... DAD ...!
I'VE NEVER OBJECTED TO YOUR MOTHER'S DECISIONS ...
...AND WITH HOW STUBBORN SHE IS, IT WOULDN'T MAKE A DIFFERENCE ANYWAY.
DON'T JUST APOLOGIZE!! IT'S GOING TO BE OVER BETWEEN YOU AND MOM!!
WHA ...?
HOW IS HE SO PASSIVE...?! THAT'S MY DAD, ALL RIGHT...!
WAI...
WAIT A MINUTE!
THEN WHAT ABOUT OUR HOUSE?

WHAT THE HECK HAPPENS AFTER THIS?
HAVE YOU EVEN THOUGHT ABOUT WHAT'S AHEAD?


YOUR PARENTS' HOUSE...?
I WOULD LIKE TO RETURN TO MY PARENTS' HOME WITH MY SON.

...LIVE IN OSHAMAMBE...
MY MOM'S PARENTS...

episode★29
The story about how I saved my family from crisis



Below Hikari's mum

Hello!!

it's v-v-volume eight! That was fast! Thank you for sticking with me for each volume! Aside from going out to drink, I've been holed up in the house for the four months since the seventh volume, so I don't know what to write... I haven't put on any sunscreen this year. How many more years will I put off sunscreen?!
I hope you'll enjoy this volume as well!

T...
TELL ME YOU'RE NOT SERIOUS!
YOU CAN'T DO THAT!!
EITHER YOU OR KAORU WILL STAY IN TOKYO, AND THE OTHER WILL COME WITH ME TO HOKKAIDO
WHAT ...?
YOU CAN TAKE YOUR TIME TO DISCUSS IT.
KAORU AND I CAN'T JUST SORT SOMETHING LIKE THAT OUT LAST MINUTE!
THINK ABOUT US FOR JUST A MO-MENT!

SORRY TO CALL YOU OUT SO SUDDENLY, TSUTSUI...
NOT AT ALL.
I WANTED TO GET OUT OF THE HOUSE, TOO.
I END UP PONDERING THINGS TOO MUCH WHEN I'M BY MYSELF...
I DON'T WANT TO STOP THINKING ABOUT IT.
HUH, WAIT ...
THAT'S ...
OH.
YOU MEAN, AYADO-SAN?
...
YEAH.

I"
FWIP
I'M THE WORST.
SHE WON'T EVEN LOOK AT ME IN THE HALLS.
I MIGHT NOT EVEN BE HER FRIEND ANYMORE.

I'M AN IDIOT.
I DON'T KNOW WHY I WAS SO THOUGHTLESS.
I...I DON'T REALLY KNOW WHAT HAPPENED, BUT...
...I HAVE THOSE TIMES, TOO!
I REGRET IT ALL THE TIME!
Gasp!
THAT'S NOT ENCOURAGEMENT OR ADVICE!
NO, NO.
I'M SORRY, TOO...
...FOR GOING ON A MONOLOGUE LIKE THIS.
I SHOULD BE THINKING ABOUT THIS ON MY OWN.
WELL, I ALSO HAVE SOMETHING TO TELL YOU...
I JUST WANTED TO FEEL A BIT OF RELIEF BY SEEING YOU, TSUTSUI.
ITO ...

O...
OSHA-MAM-BE...?
WHERE THE HECK IS THAT...?
?
ナ"ッ ナ"ッ
RUSTLE
I MEAN, WHO CARES ABOUT WHAT'S GOING ON WITH ME!
Why are you listening to what I have to say?
YOUR SITUA-TION IS A MUCH BIGGER DEAL!
NO, I THINK THEY'RE BOTH BIG DEALS.
URK.
じわあ
TEARY
IF YOU GO, THEN I'M...
OH, SOR-RY.
I'M OKAY.
SNIFF
SNIFF
WELL, KAORU'S IN ELE-MENTARY SCHOOL SO HE'D LIKELY BE THE ONE LEAVING.
I'M NOT GOING ANY-WHERE.

THINGS ARE TOUGH FOR BOTH OF US...
SO LET'S JUST HANG IN THERE.
OKAY ...!

I KNOW YOU'RE DEALING WITH YOUR OWN WORRIES, SO SORRY FOR PILING MINE ON.
HONESTLY, I THINK MY PARENTS ARE BOTH JUST WORKED UP RIGHT NOW.
R-REALLY?
NOT AT ALL.

NOTE: DAD HAS BEEN CAMPING OUT IN THE LIVING ROOM THE ENTIRE TIME.
UH, YEAH ...
OH, HIKARI.
WELCOME HOME.

DAD, YOU SEEM PRETTY CALM EVEN THOUGH MOM SHOVED DIVORCE PAPERS AT YOU.
I DO?
OH !!
WHA ?!
HIKARI, LOOK!
NEW PRODUCT
新発売
Multi-purpose!
I WAS THE ONE WHO MADE THAT ADHESIVE!
WHO CARES ABOUT THAT RIGHT NOW?!
THEY'RE HAVING A TRUCK TRY AND PULL IT...
ギャギャギャギャ SCREEEECH
WON'T COME OFF!
HEH HEH HEH
...AL-THOUGH I HOPE TO SEE THIS WITH A JET PLANE SOMEDAY...
I KNOW HE'S MY DAD AND ALL, BUT...
...WHAT'S UP WITH HIM...?

DO YOU NOT CARE ABOUT OUR FAMILY ANY-MORE, DAD...?
YOU KNOW THAT'S NOT TRUE. I'M HEART-BROKEN. I JUST GET DISTRACTED WHEN I THINK ABOUT WORK.
YOUR MOTHER HAS BEEN WITH ME FOR TWENTY YEARS. SHE CHOSE AN UNRE-MARKABLE PERSON LIKE ME.
WE HAD TWO HEALTHY CHILDREN,
AND I THOUGHT I COULDN'T ASK FOR ANYTHING ELSE.
THAT'S EXACTLY HOW I THINK...!
YOUR MOTHER IS SUCH A BRIGHT AND WONDERFUL PERSON THAT SHE CANSTART AGAIN IN HOKKAIDO.
YEAH, RIGHT.
MOM'S NOT THE WOMAN SHE WAS LONG TIME AGO...

I STILL LOVE HER.
SHE HASN'T CHANGED.
HOW IRONIC. I SPENT MY LIFE CHASING AFTER AN ADHESIVE THAT STICKS TO ANYTHING..
...BUT I DON'T HAVE AN ADHESIVE THAT WILL STICK TO SOMEONE'S HEART.
THAT ...
...WASN'T VERY GOOD.
ANYWAY, KEEP AWAY FROM ADHESIVES.

HOW DO I GET MY MOM TO HAVE A CHANGE OF HEART...? I DON'T KNOW.
IT'S OVER.
I MEAN, IF MY OWN GIRLFRIEND SAID...
...I WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO DO ANYTHING, EITHER...

MY DAD'S NO GOOD.
IF I LEAVE MATTERS TO HIM, THEY'LL GET DIVORCED.

BRO !!
KABAM
WHOA!
どき どき どき
BADUMP BADUMP BADUMP
WHAT THE HELL, MAN? KNOCK!

D...
DAD AND MOM ARE GETTING A DIVORCE.
MOM SAID SHE'S GOING TO HOKKAI-DO...
...
SO THEY FINALLY TOLD KAORU.
PAT...
WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN TO ME...?
OSHA-MAMBE IS A NICE PLACE.
YOU CAN PLAY IN THE SNOW!
I DON'T CARE ABOUT THAT!
I'M STAY-ING IN TOKYO!
HUHHH ?!
YOU GO TO OSHA-MAMBE, BRO!

AS LONG AS YOU HAVE YOUR PC AND YOUR GAMES, YOU CAN LIVE ANY-WHERE!
WHA?
THAT'S NOT YOUR CALL!
DO YOU KNOW HOW HARD IT IS TO TRANS-FER HIGH SCHOOLS?
YOU'RE IN ELE-MENTARY SCHOOL, SO IT'S ONLY NATURAL THAT YOU GO!
WHY ?!
I'M A CHILD, Y'KNOW...? MY MIND AND BODY ARE WAY MORE AFFECTED BY MY ENVIRON-MENT!
IT'S SO UNFAIR!
AND YET, I GET NO SAY IN FAMILY BUSI-NESS?!
Ngh...
THIS KID WOULD BE FINE ANY-WHERE...!
WELL ...
I...
...SUCK AT STARTING FROM SCRATCH WITH PEOPLE I DON'T KNOW, SO I CAN'T GO!
YOU'RE JUST LAZY!

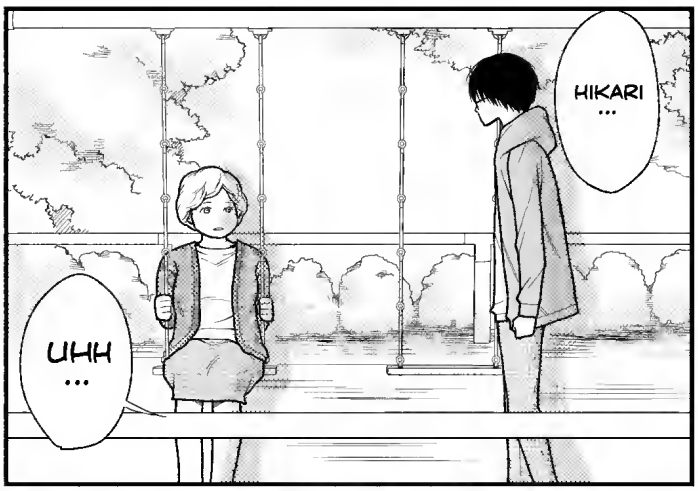
IT'S YOUR FAULT YOU'VE AVOIDED INTERACTING WITH PEOPLE YOUR WHOLE LIFE!
DON'T SAY YOU'VE GOT THE SAME PROBLEMS AS ME, 'CAUSE YOU JUST DON'T TRY!
WHAT'S YOUR PROBLEM?
YOU'RE IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL! DON'T COME AT ME WITH LOGIC!
Scary!
WELL, IF YOU HAVE ANOTHER REASON YOU CAN'T GO, THEN LET'S HEAR IT.
WELL...
...BECAUSE...
...BECAUSE IROHA'S HERE...
KYAAAH!

WELL...
I HAVE ANZU-CHAN...
I SEE...
YOU'RE RIGHT...

SORRY, I WAS ONLY THINKING ABOUT MYSELF.
I'M NOT BUDGING, Y'KNOW.
YOU'RE GOING TO OSHA-MAMBE!
FIRM
WHA ?!
YOU'RE SO SELF-ISH!
I TOLD YOU I'M NOT GOING!
HOW DID HE GET SO CHEEKY?

I will be out of the house.
Please order in for dinner for the next while.
Mom
HM?
WHAT DOES SHE MEAN BY "NEXT WHILE"?
SH...
SHE'S LEFT HOME ...?!
THUD
THUD
THUD
THUD
THUD
HEY, I'M HEADING OUT FOR A BIT...
ORDER IN! KAORU, ORDER IN!
HUH? I DUNNO WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT, BUT I'LL HAVE A TEMPURA BOWL.

NGH...
I HAVE NO CLUE WHERE MOM WOULD GO!
Sign: Grand Opening
スーパー
BLOWOUT SALE
グランドオープン
IT LOOKS LIKE I'M GONNA HAVE TO GO HOME FOR NOW AND ASK DAD...
Sign: Park
TH...
THERE SHE IS!!

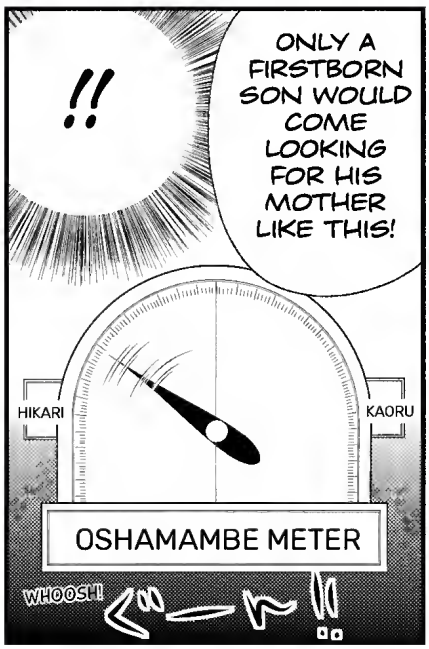

HIKARI
...
UHH
...

M...
MOM!

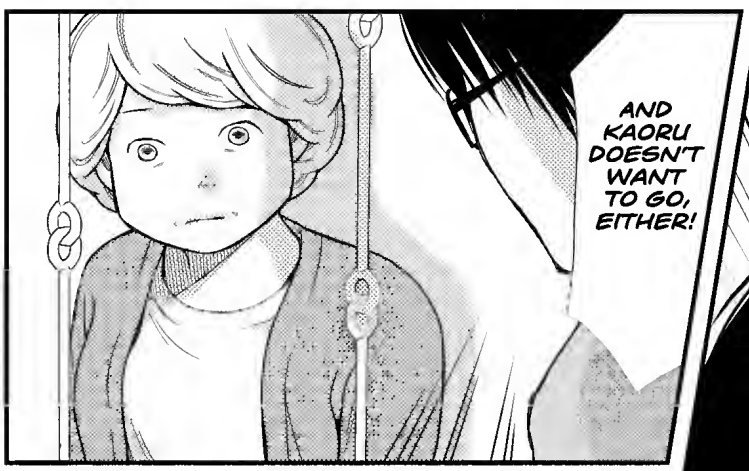
...
WHAT DO YOU WANT TO ORDER? KAORU SAID HE'LL HAVE TEMPURA BOWL...
MOM
...

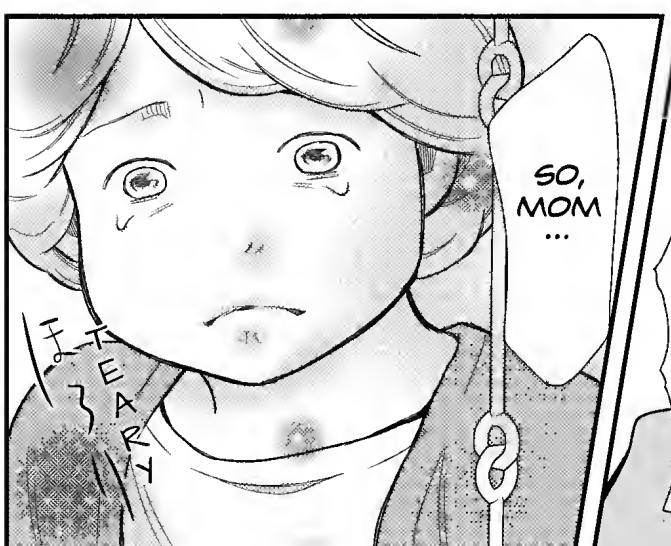
MOM... PLEASE DON'T...
...LEAVE DAD.
DON'T WORRY.
OSHA-MAMBE IS A NICE PLACE.
I KINDA DON'T WANT TO TRANSFER SCHOOLS, THOUGH...
I NEEDED TO GET OUT OF THE HOUSE, WITH YOUR FATHER IN THE LIVING ROOM ALL THE TIME.
BUT YOU KICKED HIM OUT OF THE BED-ROOM, MOM.
LET'S GO HOME NOW ...
...BE-FORE EVERY-ONE GETS WOR-RIED.

NO...!
HIKARI
KAORU
OSHAMAMBE METER
THIS IS...!
SHIIIFT... ゲ ゲ ゲ...
UM...
BUT...
IT'S TRUE THAT YOU'RE NOT GOOD AT MAKING FRIENDS, HIKARI.
I GUESS KAORU IS... YOUNGER AND NEEDS HIS MOTHER STILL.
YEAH.
TWINKLE
I THINK KAORU WILL NEED YOU.
SORRY, KAORU!
AND HE'S MORE FLEXIBLE 'CAUSE HE'S YOUNG,
ゲラ BLAH
AND HE'S SMART.
ゲラ BLAH
BY THE END OF THE YEAR, HE'LL BE HAVING FUN MAKING SNOW-MEN.
THAT'S TRUE...
TSU-TSUI, DOING ALL HE CAN TO SELL OUT HIS LITTLE BROTH-ER.
HIKARI, YOU WERE ALWAYS INTO ANIME AND VIDEO GAMES AND HAD FEW FRIENDS, BUT...
...YOU'VE ALWAYS BEEN A GOOD BOY.
BOTH OF YOU ARE PRECIOUS TO ME...


!!
ONLY A FIRSTBORN SON WOULD COME LOOKING FOR HIS MOTHER LIKE THIS!
HIKARI
KAORU
OSHAMAMBE METER
WHOOSH!

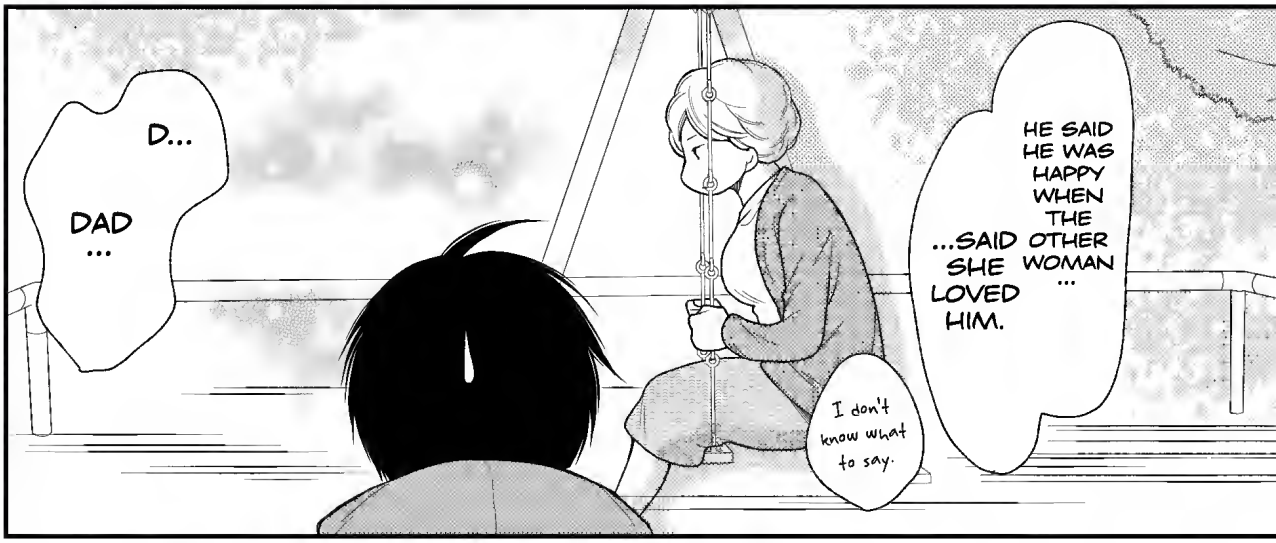
HUH?
BUT ...
Like getting arrested by the police...
YOU MAY BE A HANDFUL...
...THAN A KID LIKE KAORU WHO CAN DO ANYTHING.
...DOING THE MOST UNEXPECTED THINGS, BUT THAT'S MUCH MORE INTERESTING...

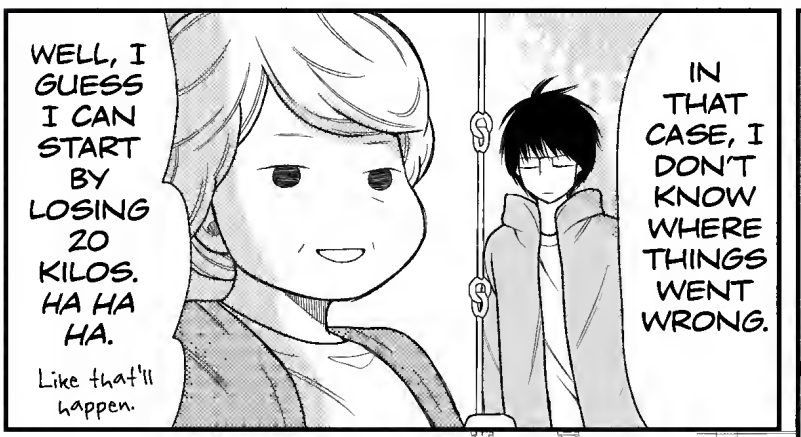

AND KAORU DOESN'T WANT TO GO, EITHER!


SO, MOM ...
TEARY

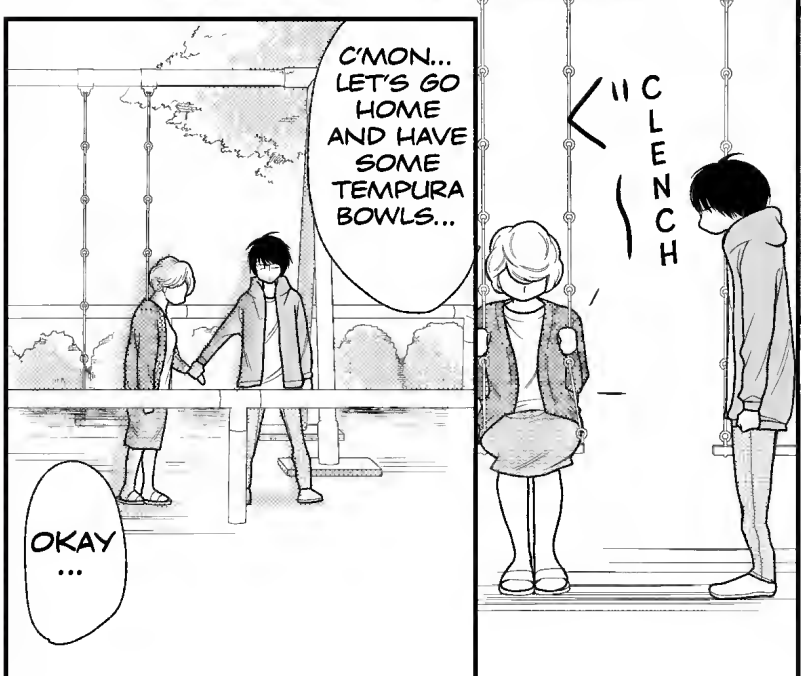
HIKARI, YOU...
WAIT!
I'M NOT GOING TO HOKKAIDO, OKAY?!

I'M SAYING OUR FAMILY SHOULD STAY TOGETHER!
AND YOU WERE... SUCH A DIFFICULT BIRTH...!
D-DON'T CRY!!
DON'T PULL THAT ON ME NOW.
I'm the one who wants to cry.
IT'S TOO LATE FOR THAT.
YOUR FATHER SAID...
...HE WAS HAPPY.
WH...
WHAT?
WHY?


D...
DAD
...
HE SAID HE WAS HAPPY WHEN THE OTHER WOMAN ...
...SAID SHE LOVED HIM.
I don't know what to say.


WELL, I GUESS I CAN START BY LOSING 20 KILOS. HA HA HA.
Like that'll happen.
IN THAT CASE, I DON'T KNOW WHERE THINGS WENT WRONG.

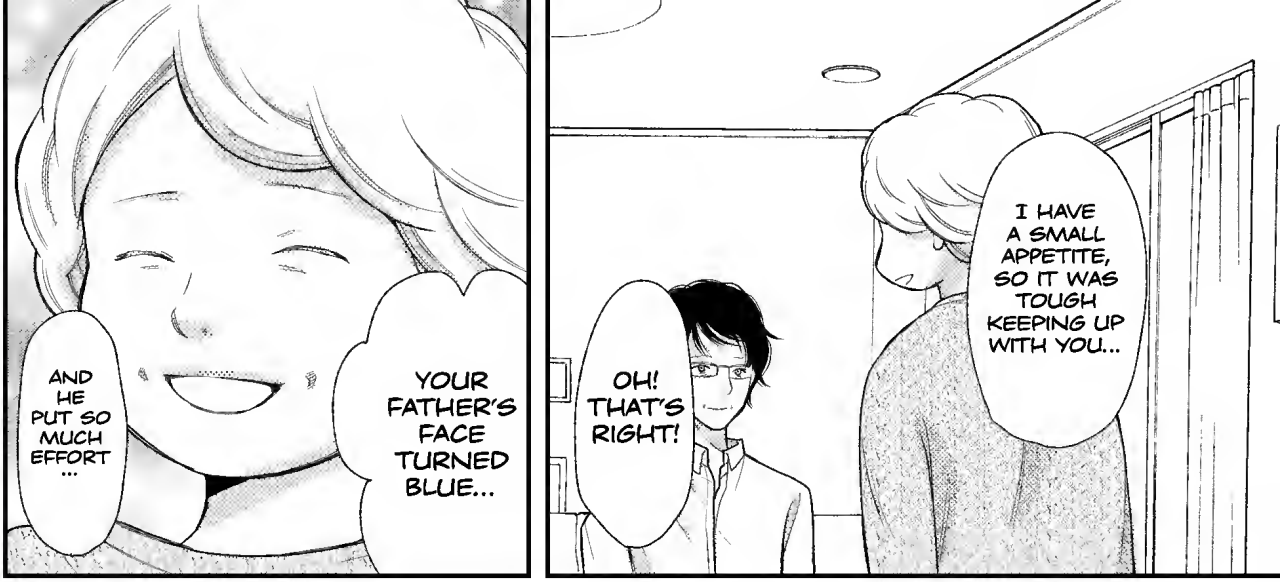
I'M IN SHOCK.
YOUR FATHER DOESN'T SEE ME AS A WOMAN ANYMORE.
I DON'T THINK THAT'S TRUE ...
MAYBE HE WAS JUST LONELY ...
I dunno...

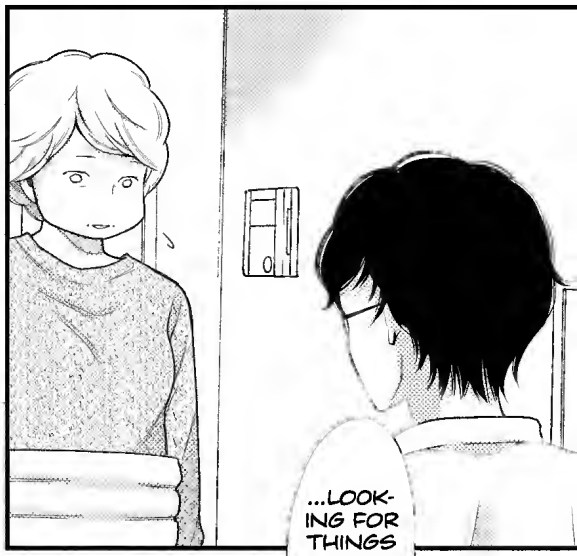

C'MON... LET'S GO HOME AND HAVE SOME TEMPURA BOWLS...
OKAY ...
CLENCH

IT DOESN'T SEEM LIKE MOM HATES DAD.
I MIGHT HAVE A CHANCE!
I SYMPATHIZE WITH MOM'S FEELINGS...
...BUT I WANT TO STOP THE DIVORCE.
AND AT THIS RATE, KAORU AND I'LL PROBABLY KILL EACH OTHER.
BESIDES...
HOW DO I KEEP THEM TOGETHER ...?!
HOW ...?
THE PHOTO ALBUM I SAW THE OTHER DAY...!
FLOMP
OH!

YEAH!
THAT'S IT!
Honeymoon at Atami
HUH?
A TRIP?
OH.
A PLACE LIKE ATAMI'S CLOSE BY!
S...
SORTA, TO MAKE MEMO-RIES...
I...IT'S JUST...
DAD'S ALWAYS BEEN BUSY, SO YOU GUYS HAVE NEVER HAD A CHANCE...
WHY NOW, ALL OF A SUD-DEN?

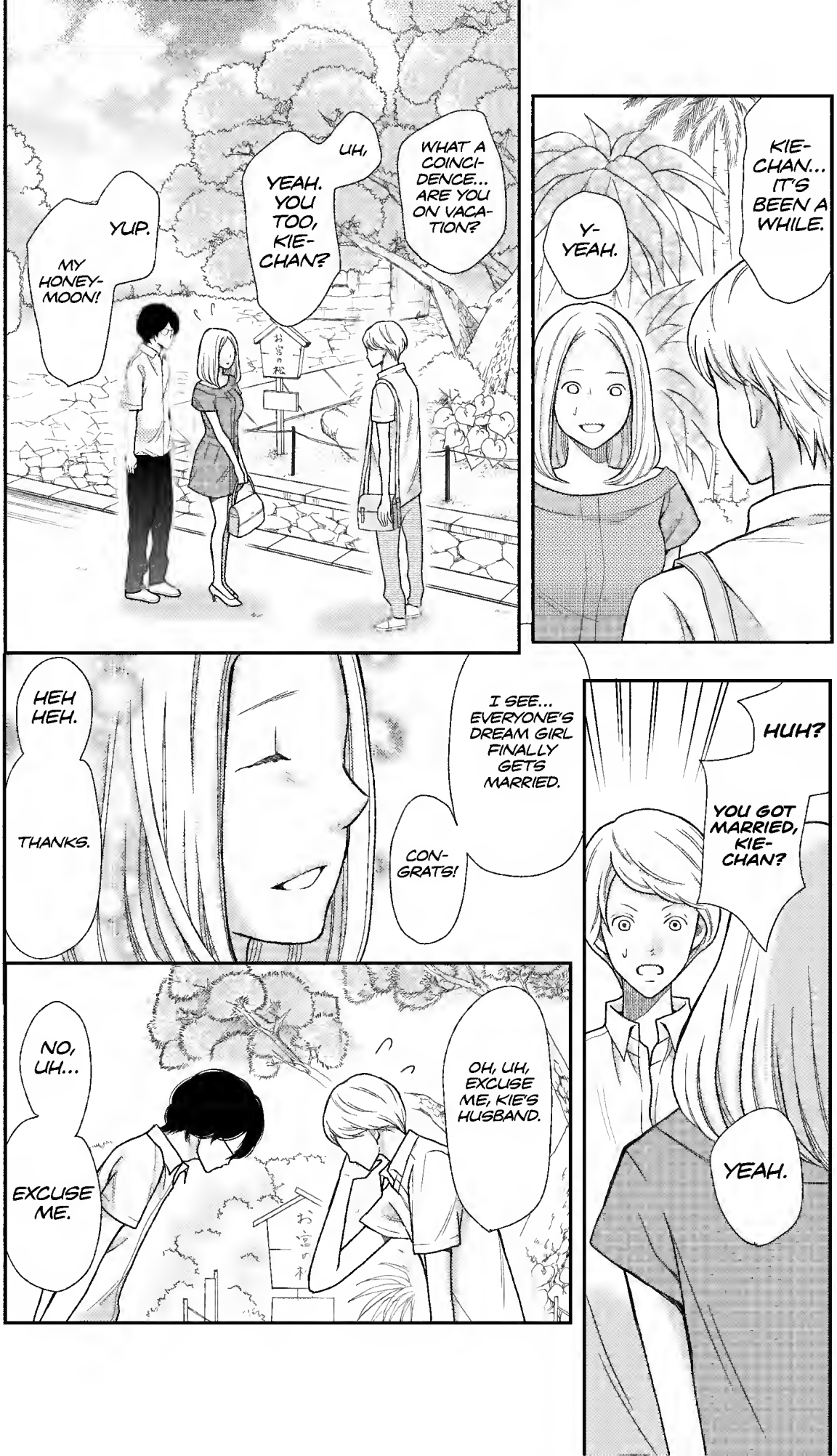
ATAMI...
WE STAYED AT QUITE A NICE *RYOKAN*, DIDN'T WE?
YEAH.
THAT'S WHERE WE WENT FOR OUR HONEY-MOON.
IT'S A SPECIAL PLACE.
O...
ATAMI HAD TASTY FISH, SO ALL WE DID ON THAT TRIP WAS EAT.
OH?
REALLY?
YEAH.

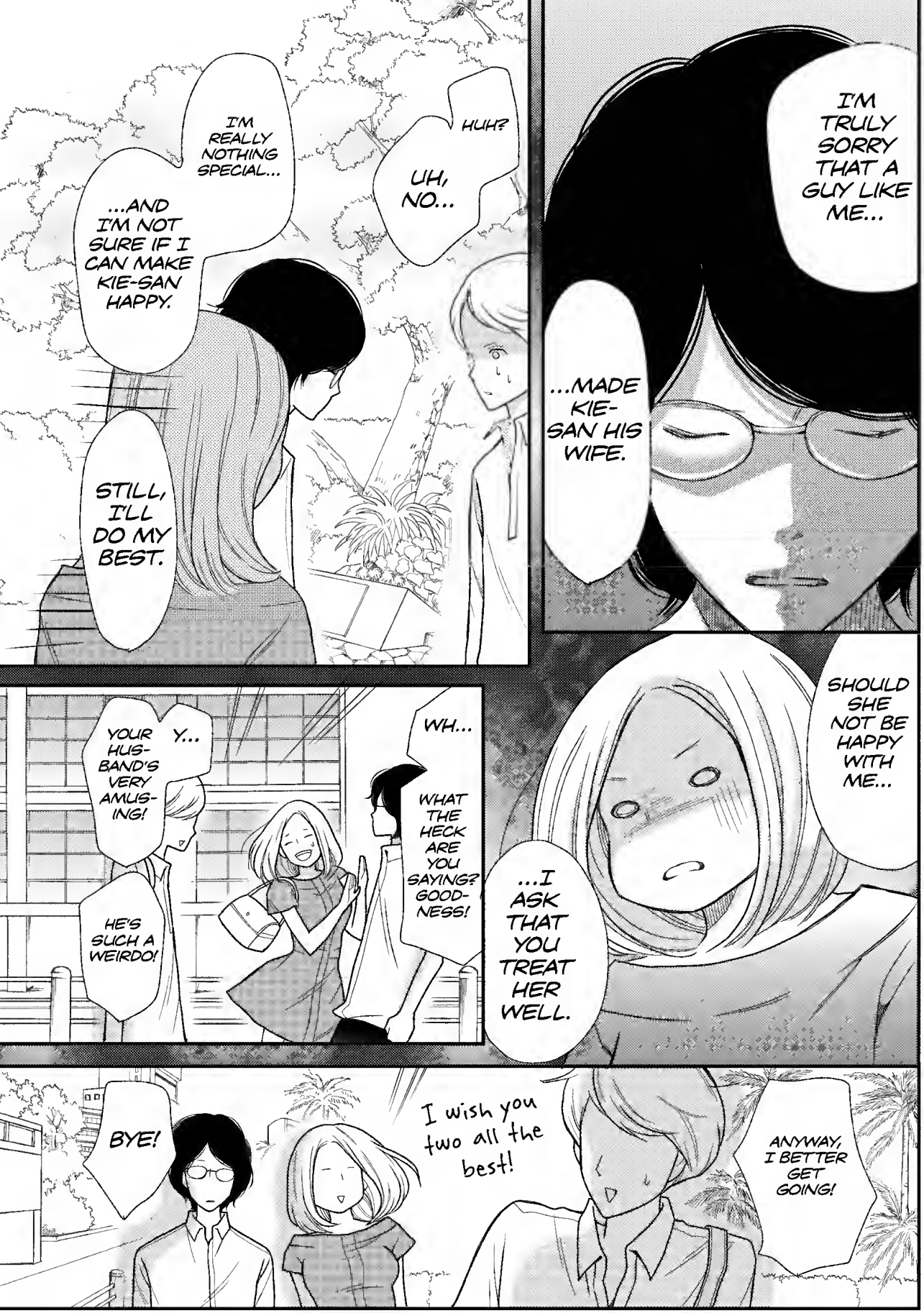




Note: A real life statue in Atami depicting characters from Ozaki Koyo's 1897 novel The Golden Demon."

I JUST REMEMBERED...
WH...
WHAT IS IT,
MOM?
...
"ENERGERTIC."
?!
...I RAN INTO MY EX-BOYFRIEND...
WHEN WE WENT TO SEE THAT STATUE...


KIE-CHAN... IT'S BEEN A WHILE.
Y-YEAH.
HUH?
YOU GOT MARRIED, KIE-CHAN?
YEAH.
I SEE... EVERYONE'S DREAM GIRL FINALLY GETS MARRIED.
CON-GRATS!
HEH HEH.
THANKS.
OH, UH, EXCUSE ME, KIE'S HUSBAND.
NO, UH...
EXCUSE ME.
WHAT A COINCI-DENCE... ARE YOU ON VACA-TION?
UH, YEAH. YOU TOO, KIE-CHAN?
YUP. MY HONEY-MOON!


I'M TRULY SORRY THAT A GUY LIKE ME...
...MADE KIE-SAN HIS WIFE.
SHOULD SHE NOT BE HAPPY WITH ME...
...I ASK THAT YOU TREAT HER WELL.
HUH?
UH, NO...
I'M REALLY NOTHING SPECIAL...
...AND I'M NOT SURE IF I CAN MAKE KIE-SAN HAPPY.
STILL, I'LL DO MY BEST.
WH...
WHAT THE HECK ARE YOU SAYING? GOOD-NESS!
Y...
YOUR HUS-BAND'S VERY AMUS-ING!
HE'S SUCH A WEIRDO!
ANYWAY, I BETTER GET GOING!
I wish you two all the best!
BYE!

...SAY SOMETHING WEIRD?
HUH ...?
DID I...
KAPOW
...YOU JUST NEVER UNDERSTOOD A WOMAN'S HEART!
COME TO THINK OF IT, SINCE THE VERY START OF OUR MARRIAGE ...

YOU KNOW, WHEN A WOMAN MEETS HER EX...
...SHE WANTS TO SEEM LIKE SHE'S MOVED ON AND FOUND HAPPINESS.
IF YOU SAY SOMETHING LIKE THAT, IT'S RUINED!
S...
SORRY...
YOU WERE ALWAYS LIKE THAT!
EVEN IF YOU'RE NOT CONFIDENT, YOU SHOULD SAY YOU'LL MAKE YOUR WIFE HAPPY!
YOU ALWAYS MAKE EXCUSES THAT YOU CAN'T!
THAT ISN'T KINDNESS OR ANYTHING LIKE THAT!
I DON'T KNOW, BUT...
...IT SOUNDS LIKE SHE'S TALKING TO ME ...!!
SIGH...
SINCE THEN, YOU HAVEN'T CHANGED ONE BIT.
SO STUPID... WHAT WERE THESE TWENTY YEARS FOR?
HEEK!
SHE FLIPPED A SWITCH AND GOT ANGRY...!!
WHAT SHOULD I DO...?!
SIGH

MY ATAMI COME-BACK...
...IS JUST PLAIN BACK-FIRING!!
SIGH
WAIT!
HOLD ON A MIN-UTE!

I DON'T WANT THIS FAMILY TO SPLIT UP!
PLEASE! JUST CALM DOWN AGAIN!
AND KAORU AND I BOTH NEED YOU!
DAD SAID HE STILL LOVES YOU, MOM!
HIKARI ...
PLEASE!

I'VE MADE MY DECISION.
SO DID YOUR MOM RECON-SIDER...?
HUH ...?
WELL ...

HIKARI, YOU ALWAYS LOOKED LIKE YOU WEREN'T THINKING ABOUT ANYTHING, BUT THE TRUTH WAS, YOU CARED SO MUCH ABOUT THE FAMILY!
ONLY A FIRST-BORN WOULD DO THAT...
NOD NOD
I WANT TO...
...GO TO HOKKAIDO WITH YOU, HIKARI.
YOU'LL GO WITH YOUR MOTHER, WON'T YOU?
HIKARI ...!

HIKARI
KAORU
OSHAMAMBE METER

episode 30

The story of the similarities between my dad and me

To those reading Dessert Magazine, I've made plans for a "Real Love Advisory Center." Nanami and supervisor Mimone will tackle reader concerns in the form of a discussion.
I have no idea whether I'll be able to pull this off, but you'll be able to get a glimpse of Mimone's personality, and the blunt interactions between us, so if you're interested in that, then please have a peek!
Send your inquiries to:
"Real Love Advisory Center"
Dessert Editorial Department
12-21, Otowa 2-chome, Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo
112-8001, Japan

I SEE...
SO...
WE'RE FIN-ISHED.
WHAT THE HECK DID I WANT FROM AYADO-SAN...
...AFTER TOUCHING HER LIKE THAT?
AND SHE'D ALWAYS BEEN....
...SO KIND TO ME.

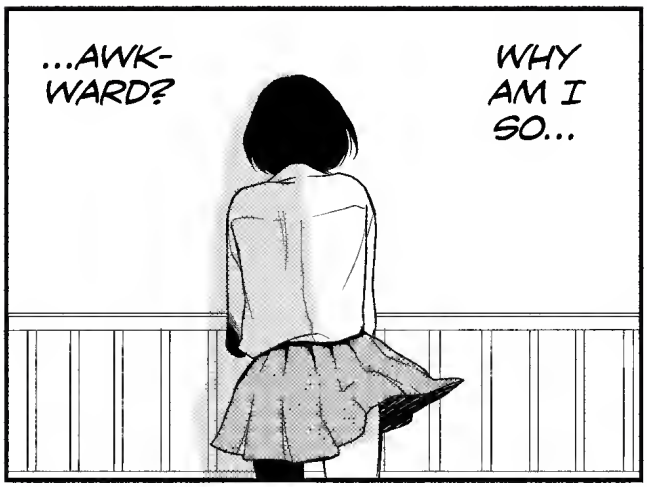
THIS IS WHAT I GET FOR BEING GREEDY.
HUH ...?
I'M SAY-ING...
I MIGHT BE THE ONE...
TIRED
...WHO HAS TO GO TO OSHA-MAMBE.
UH, BUT, HEY!
IT STILL ISN'T FINAL!
TEARY

SEE THAT?
SOB
THIS IS WHY I'M SO... PATHETIC.

RUB
THAT'S RIGHT. WHAT'S THE POINT IN CRYING?!
TSU-TSUI'S THE ONE WHO'S IN A BAD SPOT!

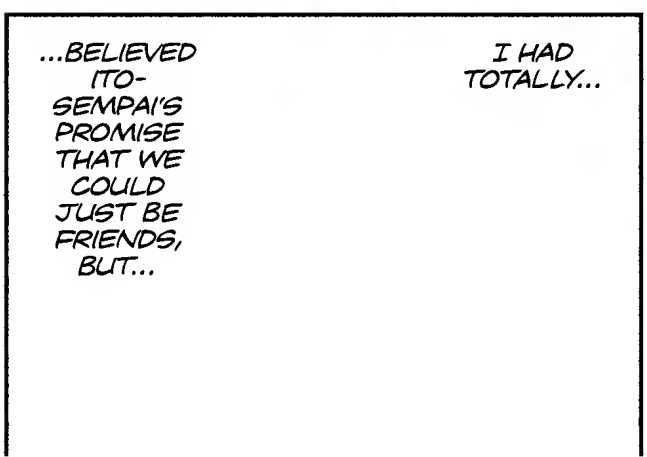
I HAVE TO BE STRON-GER.

PANIC
I HAVE TO BE STRON-GER THAN THIS...
IF HE GOES AWAY...
IF TSU-TSUI...
...I HAVE TO BE OKAY.


WHY AM I SO...
...AWK-WARD?

WH... WHAT IS IT?
YOU'RE MAKING ME BLUSH!

IF I HAD JUST LAUGHED BACK THERE...
...IT WOULDN'T HAVE GOTTEN THIS WEIRD.


I HAD TOTALLY...
...BELIEVED ITO-SEMPAI'S PROMISE THAT WE COULD JUST BE FRIENDS, BUT...

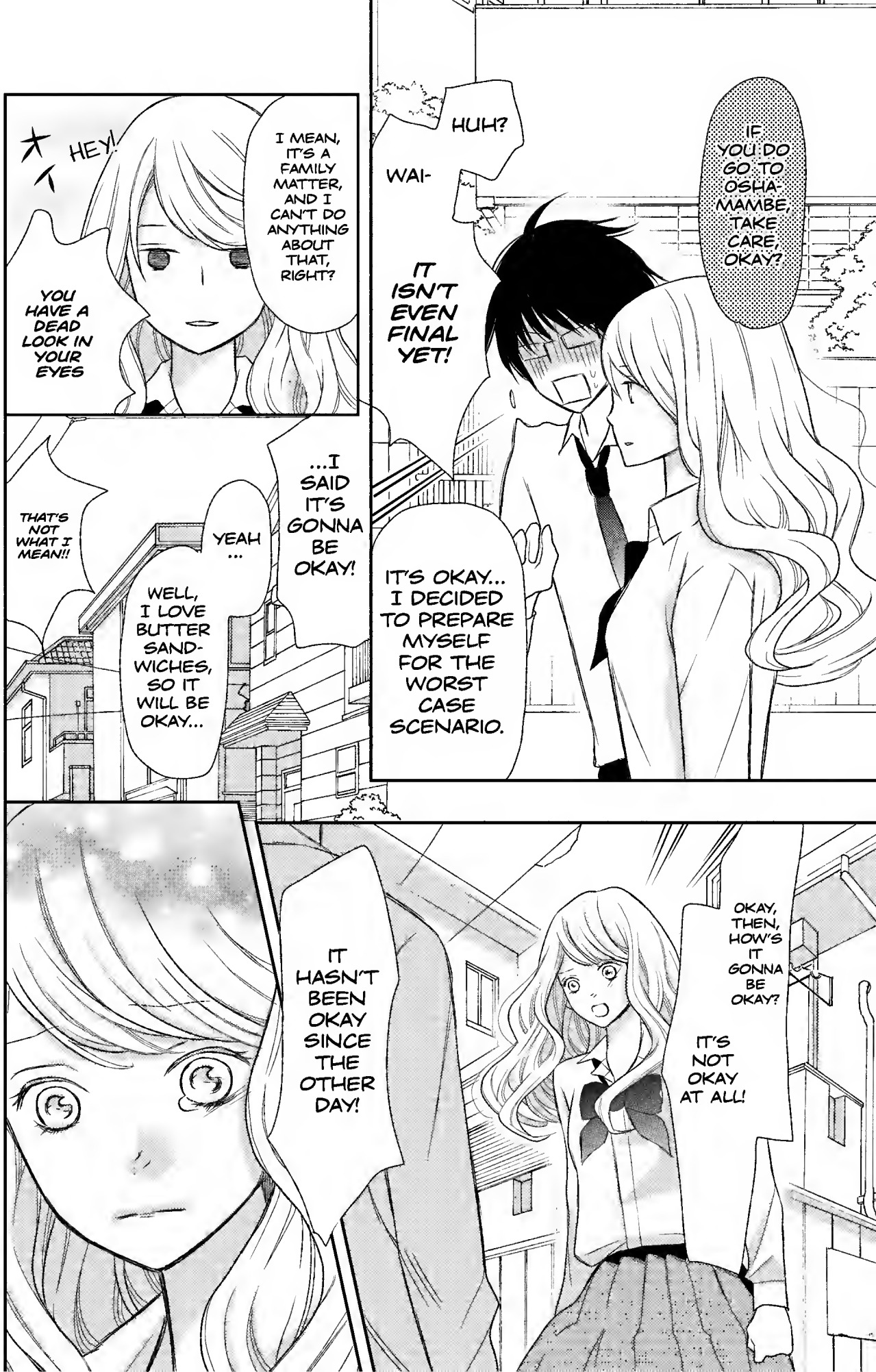
I SHOULD'VE ...
...IGNORED IT.
IT WAS ENTIRELY MY EGO.
ITO-SEMPAI'S BEEN SUFFERING THIS WHOLE TIME.
AND TSUTSUI-SEMPAI DID HIS BEST...
...TO ACCEPT MY FEELINGS.
I'M JUST THE WORST.
I CAN'T BELIEVE I JUST RAN AWAY.

I'M SO COWARDLY.
I...
ITO-SEMPAI!

G-
GOODBYE...
AND...
I'M...
...SORRY THAT I KEPT RUNNING AWAY FROM YOU...
UM...
I...

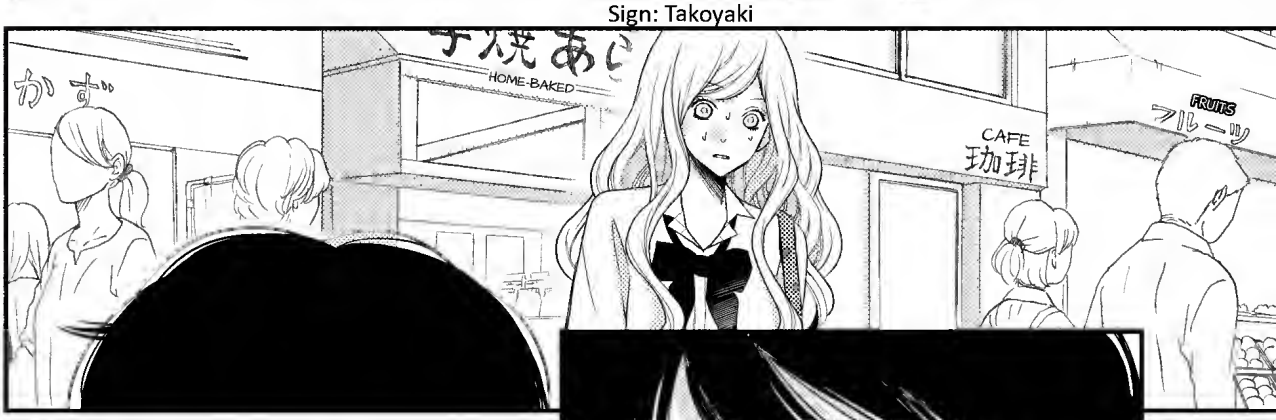
AYADO-SAN...
YOU DON'T HAVE TO TALK TO ME ANYMORE.
I'M SORRY I COULDN'T STAY JUST FRIENDS WITH YOU.

GOODBYE, AYADO-SAN.
TSU-TSUN ...


IF YOU DO GO TO OSHA-MAMBE, TAKE CARE, OKAY?
HUH?
WAI-
IT ISN'T EVEN FINAL YET!
IT'S OKAY... I DECIDED TO PREPARE MYSELF FOR THE WORST CASE SCENARIO.
HEY!
I MEAN, IT'S A FAMILY MATTER, AND I CAN'T DO ANYTHING ABOUT THAT, RIGHT?
YOU HAVE A DEAD LOOK IN YOUR EYES
...I SAID IT'S GONNA BE OKAY!
YEAH ...
WELL, I LOVE BUTTER SAND-WICHES, SO IT WILL BE OKAY...
THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEAN!!
OKAY, THEN, HOW'S IT GONNA BE OKAY?
IT'S NOT OKAY AT ALL!
IT HASN'T BEEN OKAY SINCE THE OTHER DAY!

DON'T FOLLOW ME...
WHAT-EVER... THERE'S NO POINT IN ME TELLING YOU THIS, TSU-TSUN...
H...
HOLD ON...
FOR-GET IT!
SOR-RY.
BONK
AUGH!
DAM-MIT!
TEAR

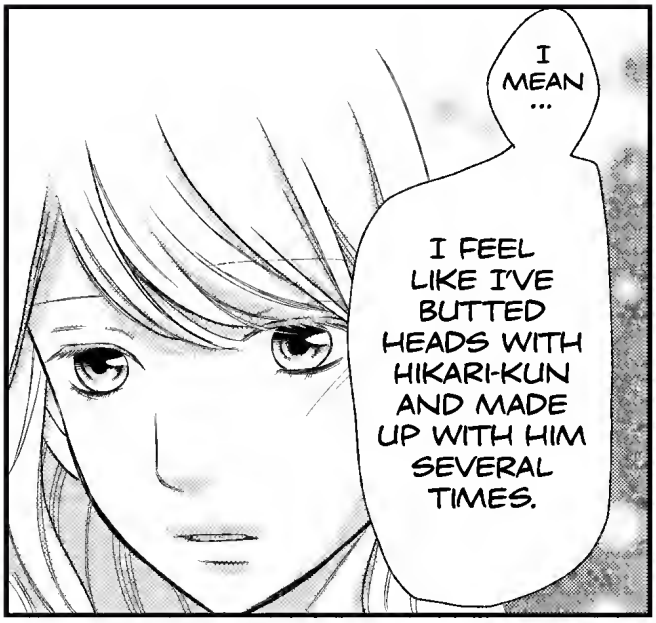
Sign: Takoyaki



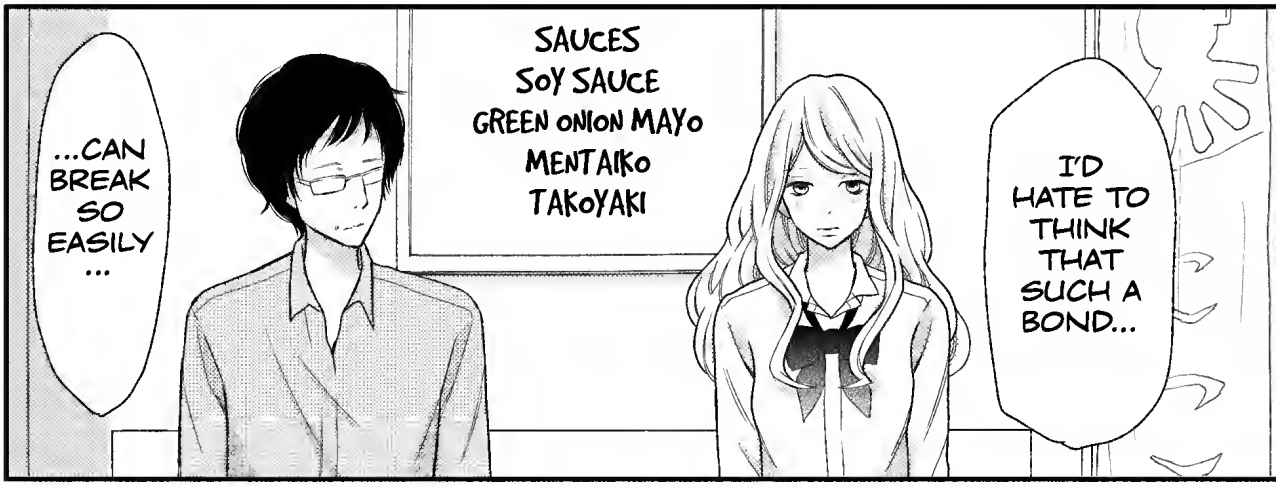
W...
WOULD YOU LIKE SOME?
I've hardly touched it.
UH, NO! IT'S NOT THAT I'M HUNGRY!
UH...
たこ焼
Sign: Takoyaki
I...
I'M DATING HIKARI-KUN.
MY NAME IS IROHA IGARASHI.
HUH ...?
DO YOU KNOW WHO I AM?
UH... YES.
I SAW YOU WHEN I WAS WITH HIKARI-KUN...
...AT THE FAMILY RESTAU-RANT DURING THE LONG WEEK-END.

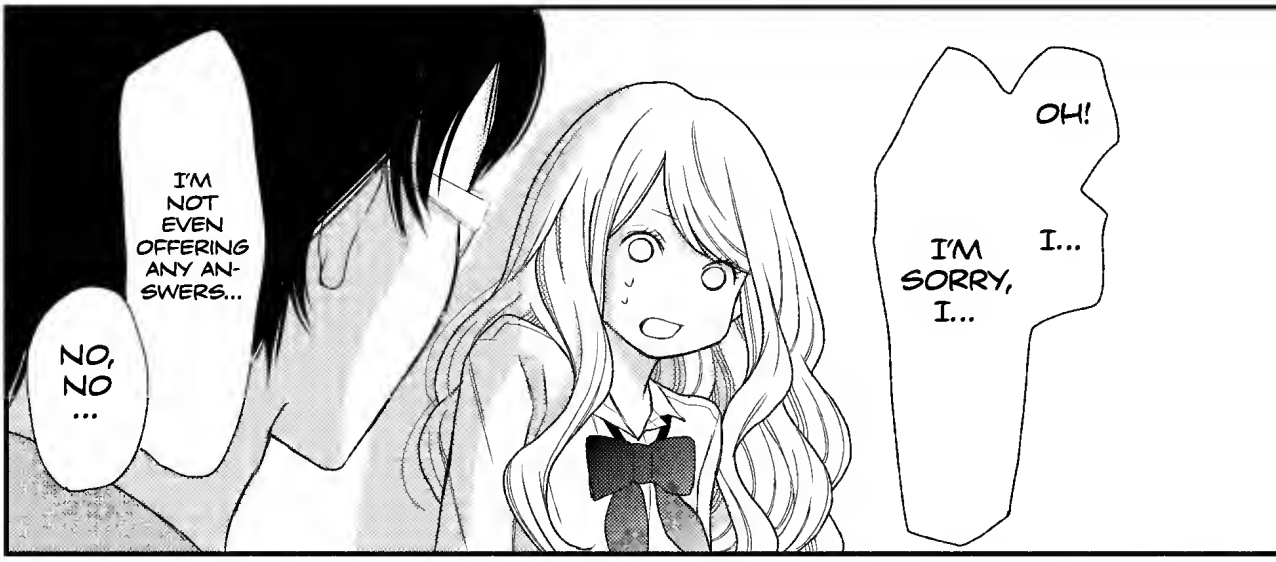
Sign: Takoyaki
SAUCES
SOY SAUCE
GREEN ONION MAYO
MENTAIKO
TAKOYAKI
I'M SURPRISED THAT HIKARI HAS SUCH A BEAUTIFUL GIRLFRIEND.
DON'T BE...
HIKARI... IS A DIFFICULT CHILD, ISN'T HE?
HE'S LIKE ME...
VERY AWKWARD...
NO.
I LIKE EVERYTHING ABOUT HIM...
I'VE NEVER TRUSTED ANYONE MORE.

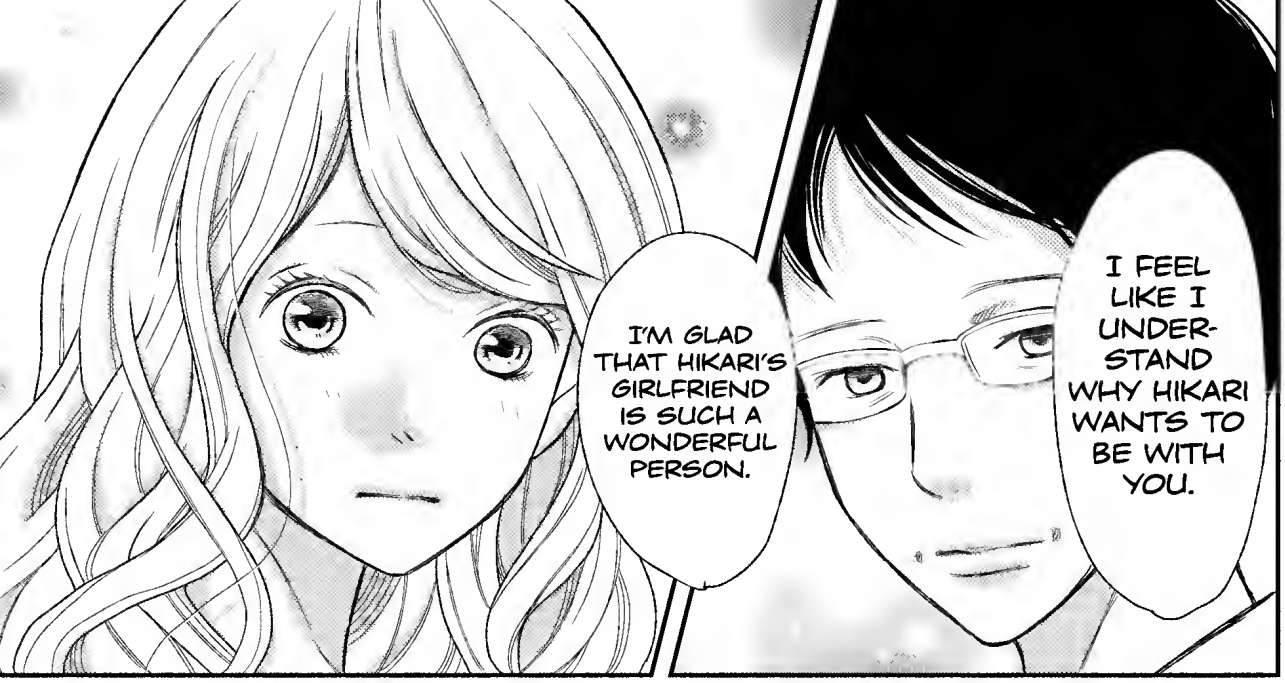
THIS MIGHT BE A NAIVE THING TO SAY...
BUT HE'S IRREPLACEABLE TO ME.
I DON'T WANT HIM TO GO FAR AWAY.
I SEE.
I'VE INDIRECTLY CAUSED YOU PROBLEMS, AS WELL.
SORRY.
TO BE HONEST...
I HAVE NO CLUE WHAT I SHOULD DO NOW.
CAN YOU ...
...RESTORE THE BOND THAT YOU ONCE HAD WITH YOUR WIFE?

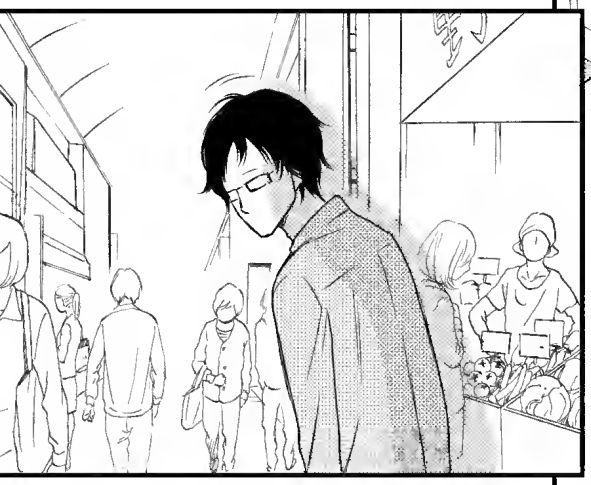


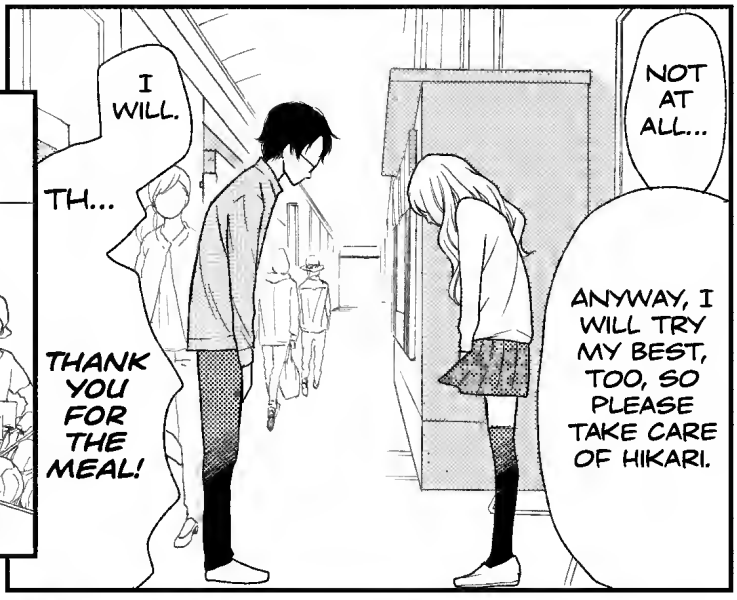
Sign: Takoyaki

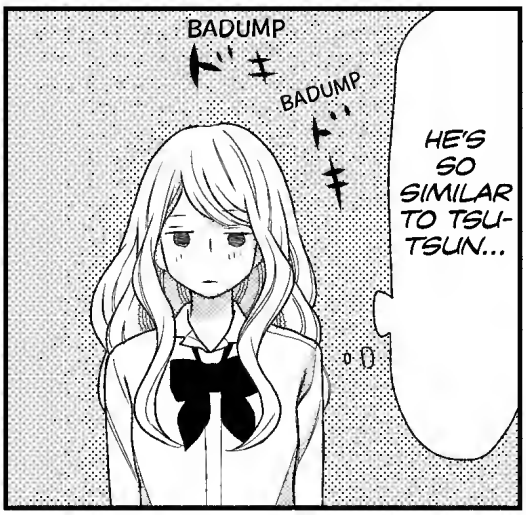


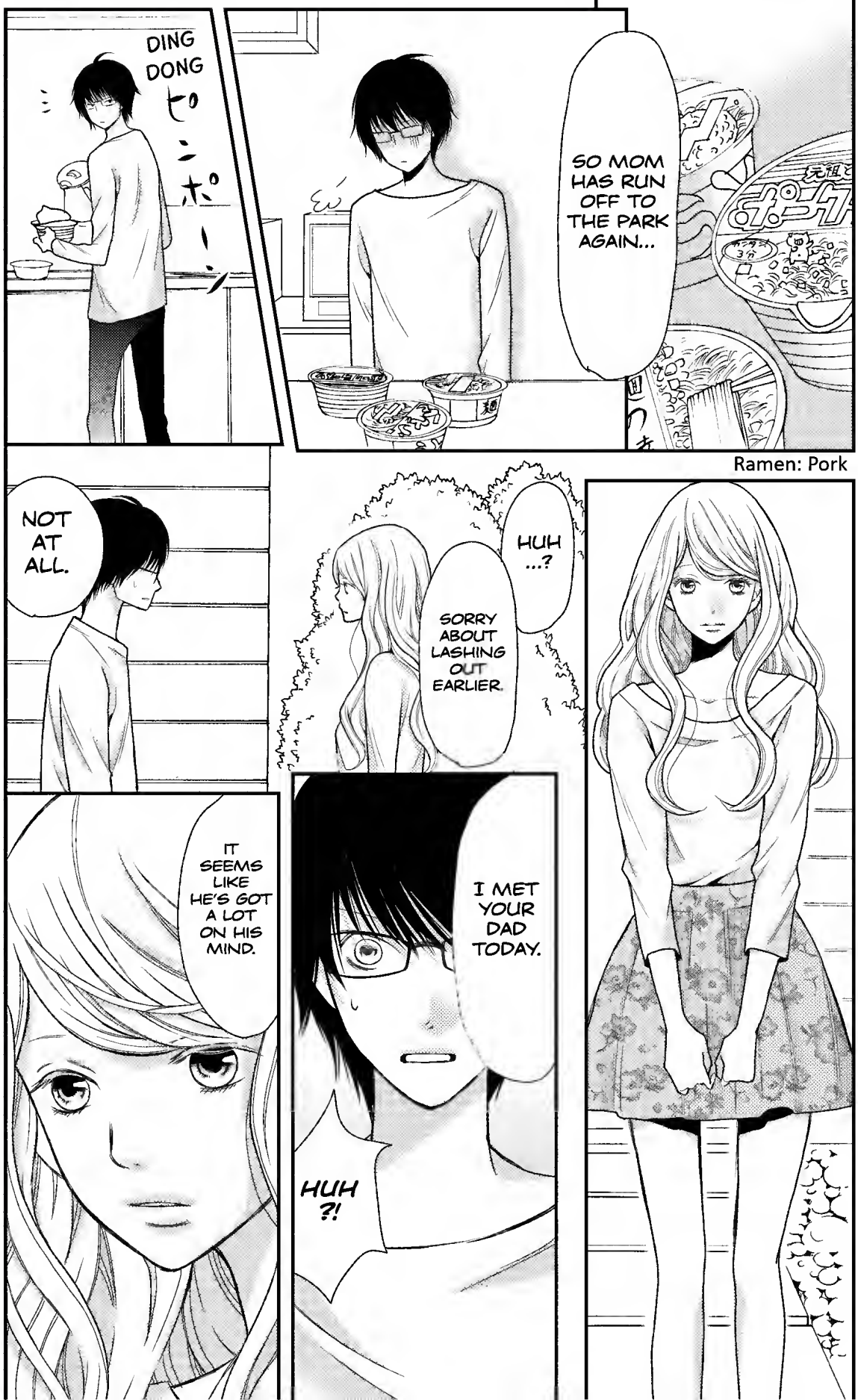



I'M GLAD THAT HIKARI'S GIRLFRIEND IS SUCH A WONDERFUL PERSON.
I FEEL LIKE I UNDER-STAND WHY HIKARI WANTS TO BE WITH YOU.

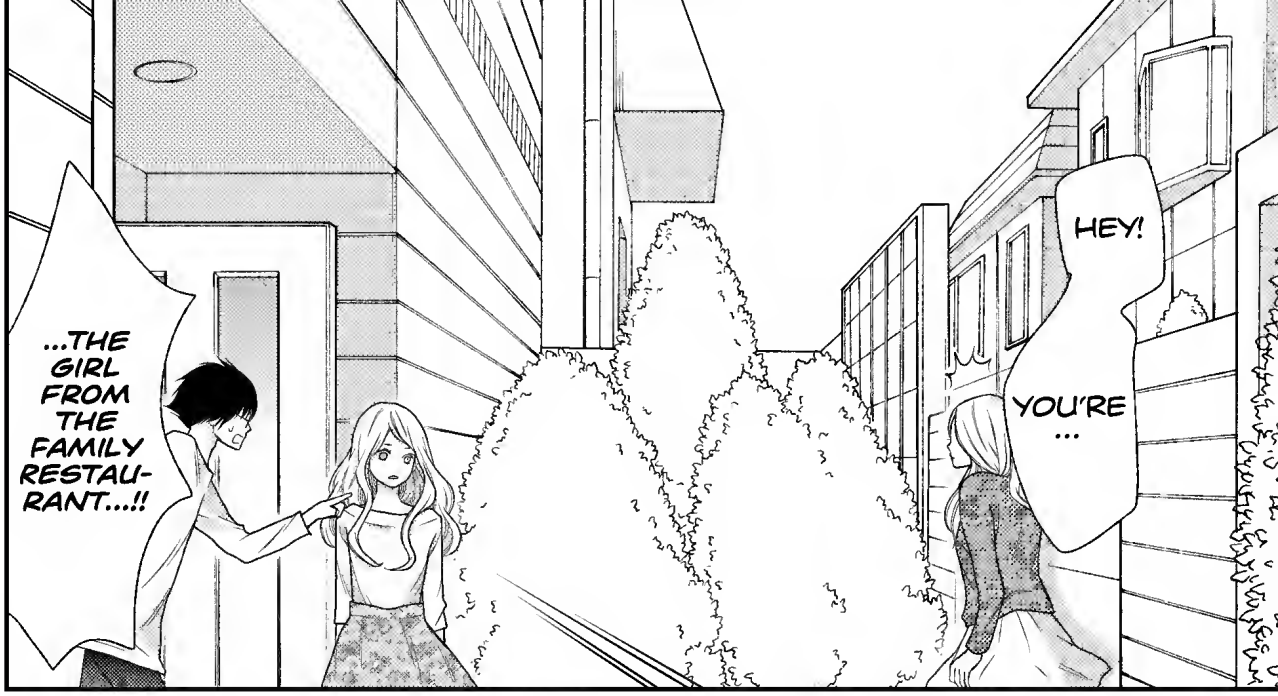


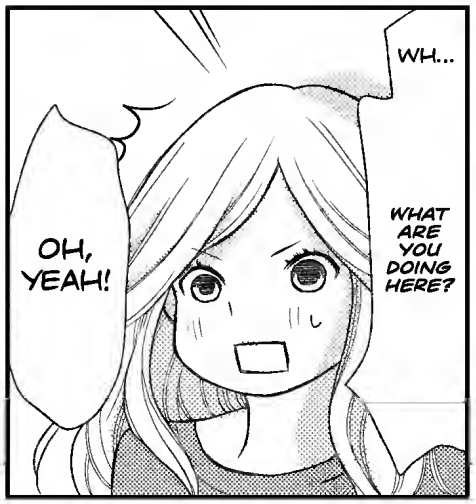

I WILL.
TH...
THANK YOU FOR THE MEAL!
NOT AT ALL...
ANYWAY, I WILL TRY MY BEST, TOO, SO PLEASE TAKE CARE OF HIKARI.

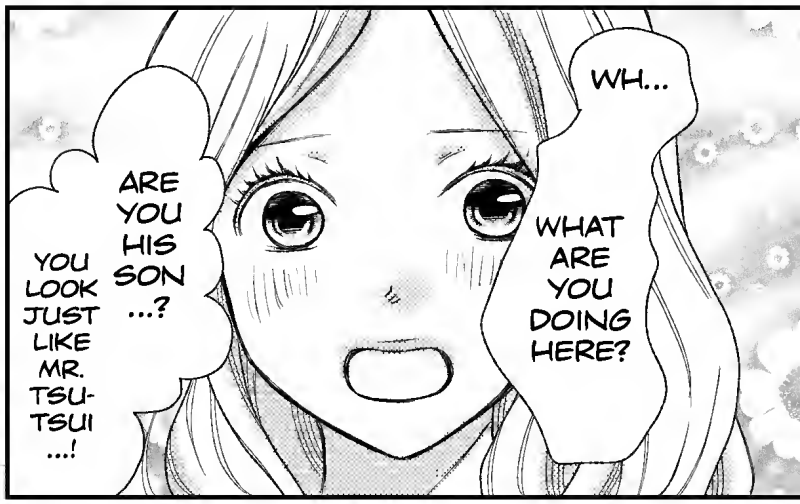

BADUMP
BADUMP
HE'S SO SIMILAR TO TSU-TSUN...

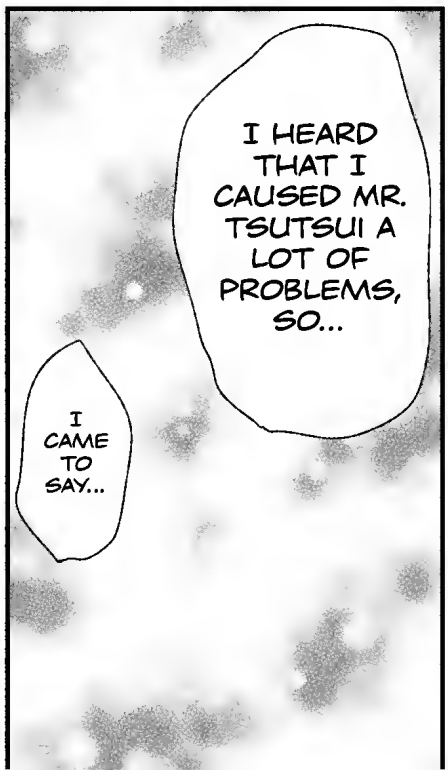

DING DONG ピンポーン
SO MOM HAS RUN OFF TO THE PARK AGAIN...
Ramen: Pork
NOT AT ALL.
HUH ...?
SORRY ABOUT LASHING OUT EARLIER.
I MET YOUR DAD TODAY.
HUH ?!
IT SEEMS LIKE HE'S GOT A LOT ON HIS MIND.

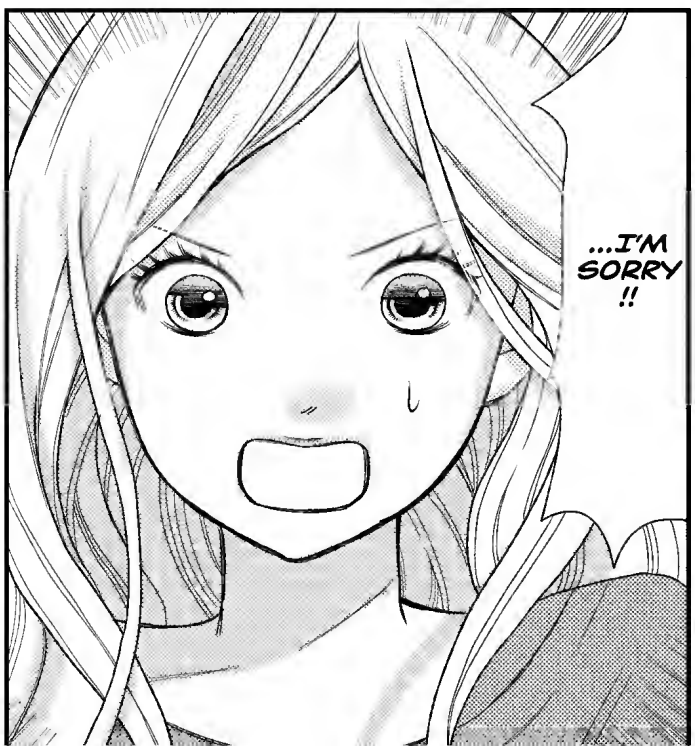
It just looks as if he's thinking.
NO...
MY DAD'S DOING NOTHING.
I'M SORRY.
BUT I ACTED REALLY IMMATURE...
YOUR DAD IS TRYING HARD.
ANYWAY, COME INSIDE...

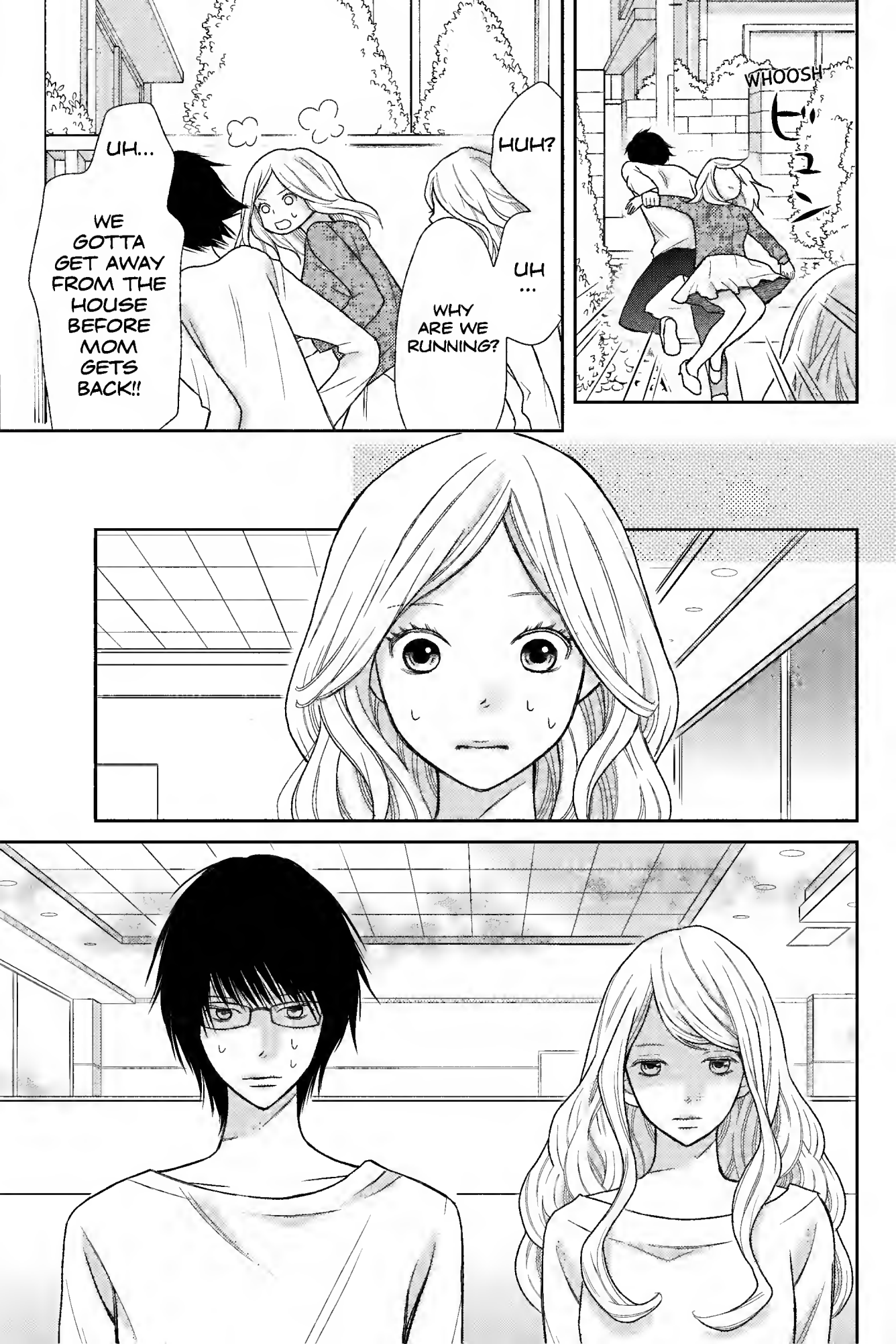

HEY!
YOU'RE...
...THE GIRL FROM THE FAMILY RESTAURANT...!!

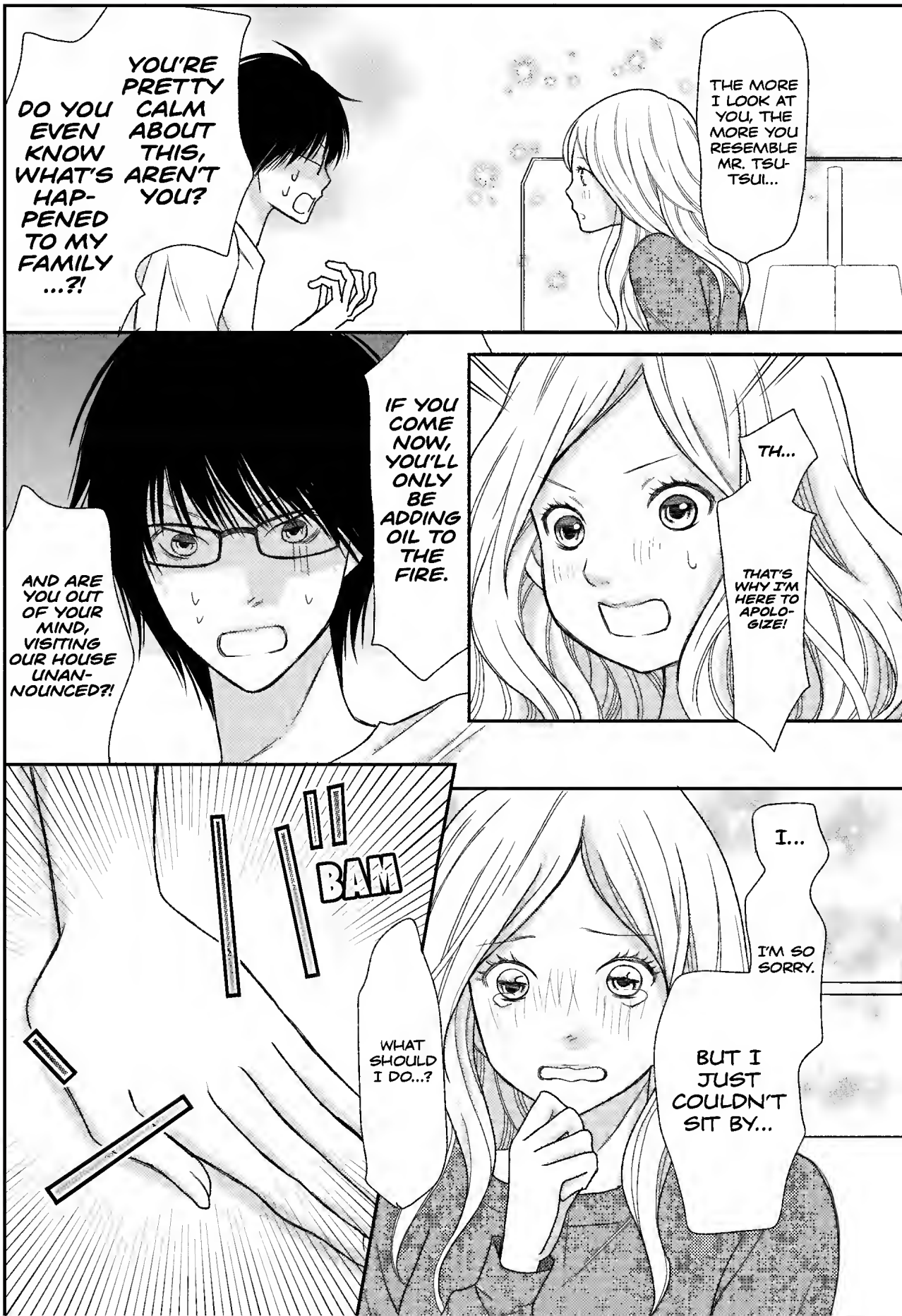

WH...
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
OH, YEAH!


WH...
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
ARE YOU HIS SON...?
YOU LOOK JUST LIKE MR. TSUTSUI...!

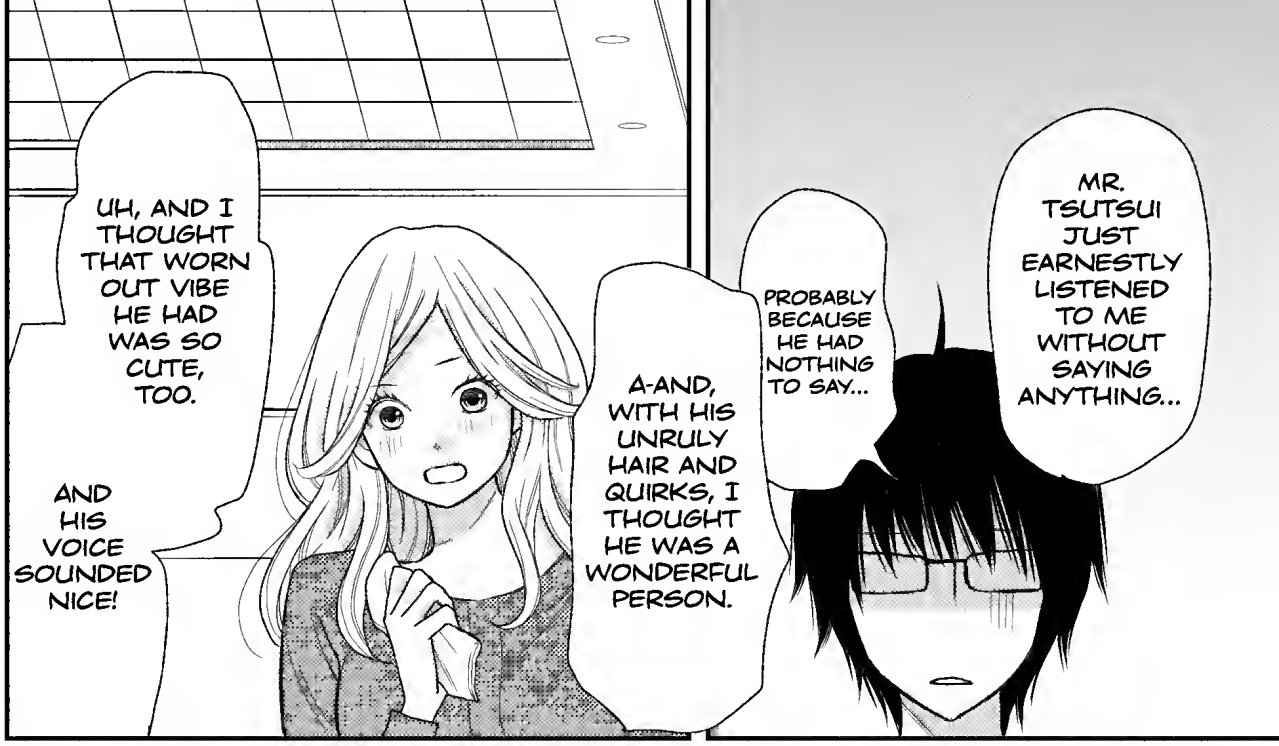

I HEARD THAT I CAUSED MR. TSUTSUI A LOT OF PROBLEMS, SO...
I CAME TO SAY...

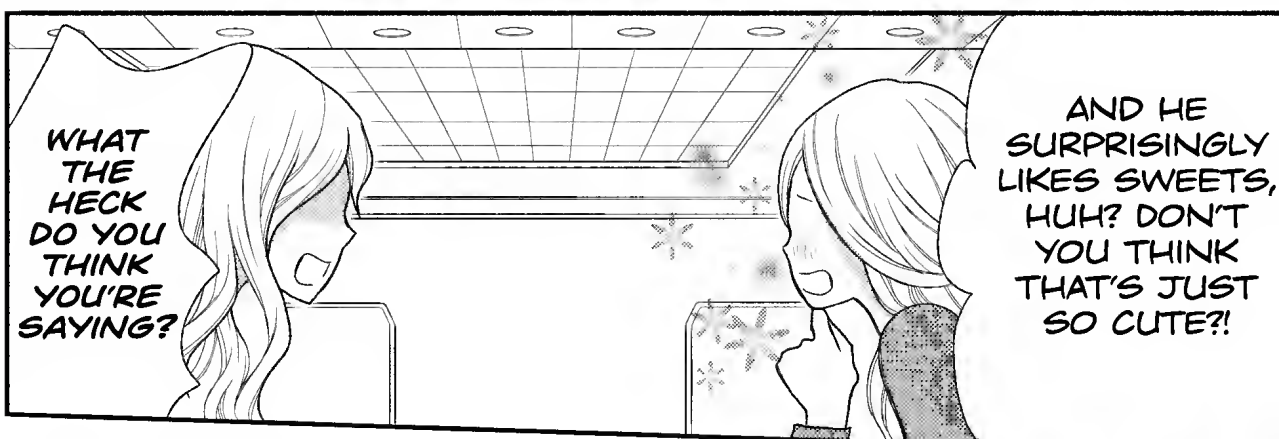

...I'M SORRY!!

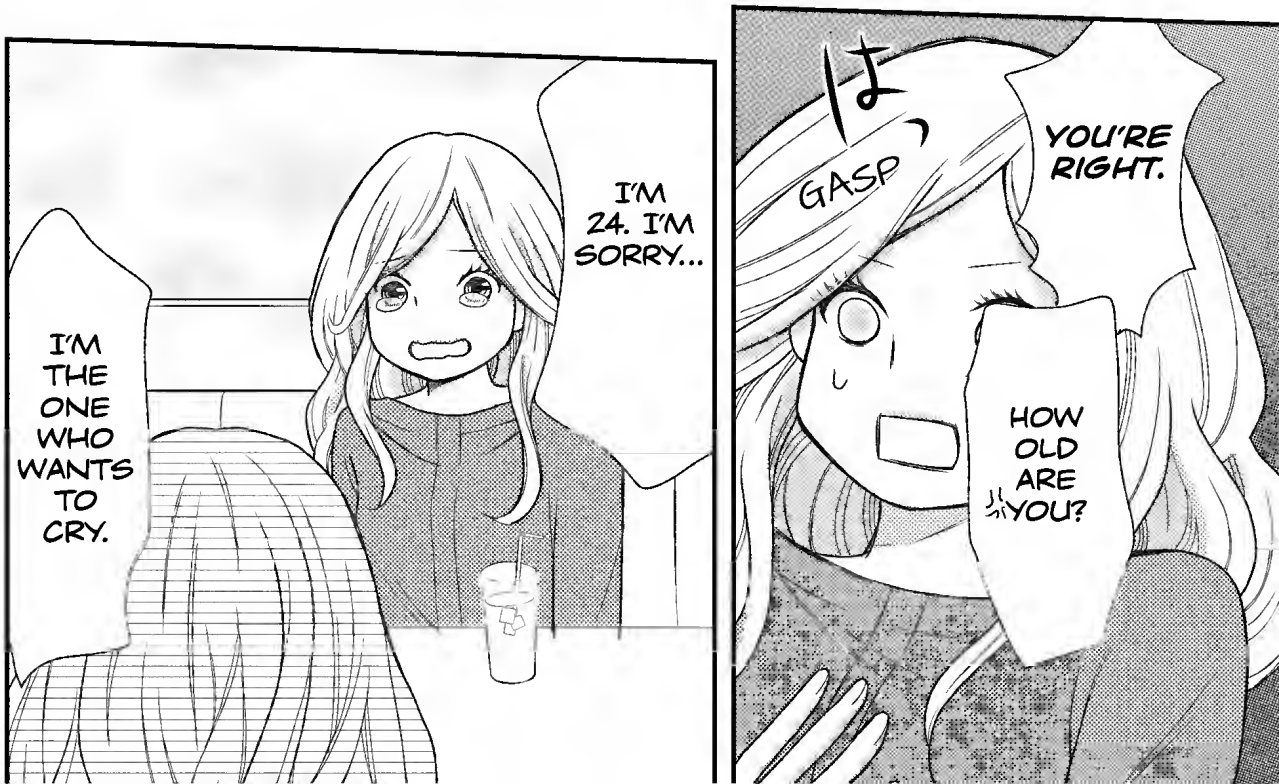

UH...
WE GOTTA GET AWAY FROM THE HOUSE BEFORE MOM GETS BACK!!
HUH?
UH ...
WHY ARE WE RUNNING?
WHOOSH

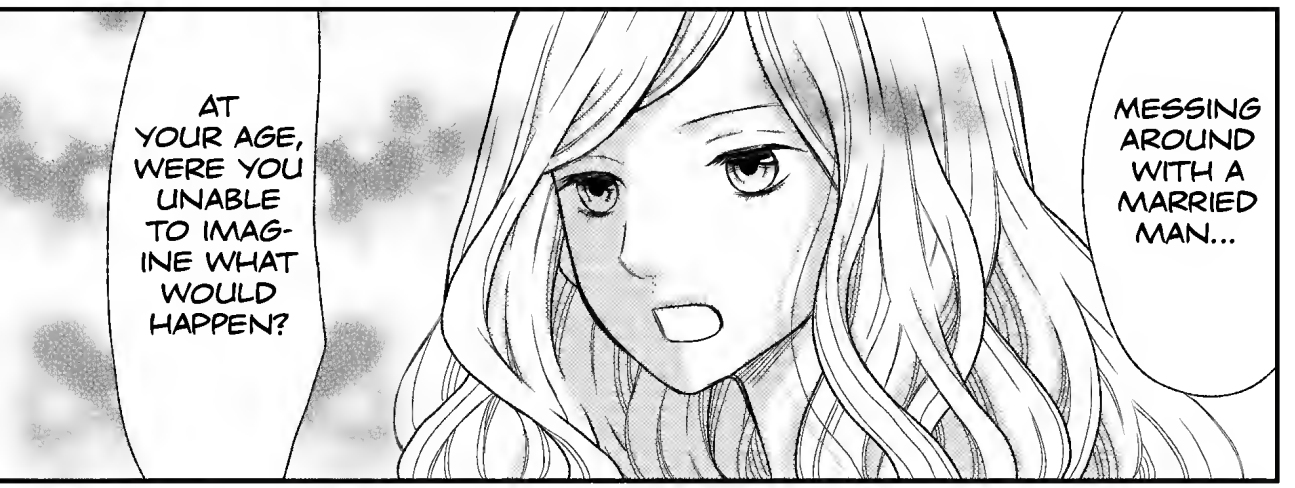

THE MORE I LOOK AT YOU, THE MORE YOU RESEMBLE MR. TSUTSUI...
YOU'RE PRETTY CALM ABOUT THIS, AREN'T YOU?
DO YOU EVEN KNOW WHAT'S HAPPENED TO MY FAMILY ...?!
TH...
THAT'S WHY I'M HERE TO APOLOGIZE!
IF YOU COME NOW, YOU'LL ONLY BE ADDING OIL TO THE FIRE.
AND ARE YOU OUT OF YOUR MIND, VISITING OUR HOUSE UNANNOUNCED?!
I...
I'M SO SORRY.
BUT I JUST COULDN'T SIT BY...
WHAT SHOULD I DO...?
BAM

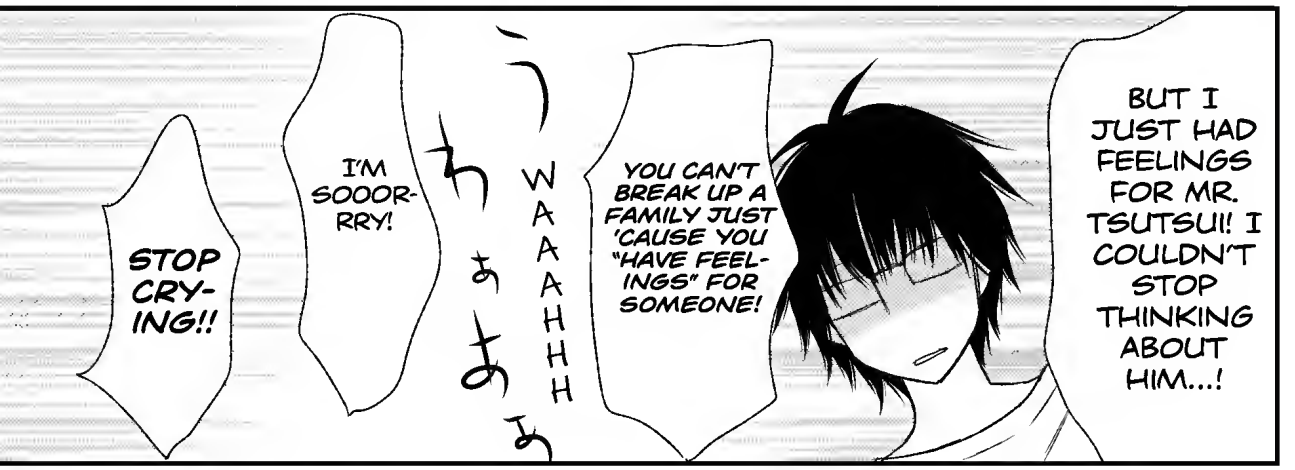
WHAT'S CRYING GOING TO DO?!
I'M SORRYY-YYY!!
わあああ
WAAAAAHHH
I...
I'LL GET US A DRINK...
WHY ARE YOU RUNNING AWAY, TSU-TSUN?!
AT FIRST, I JUST WENT TO MR. TSUTSUI TO TALK ABOUT WORK.

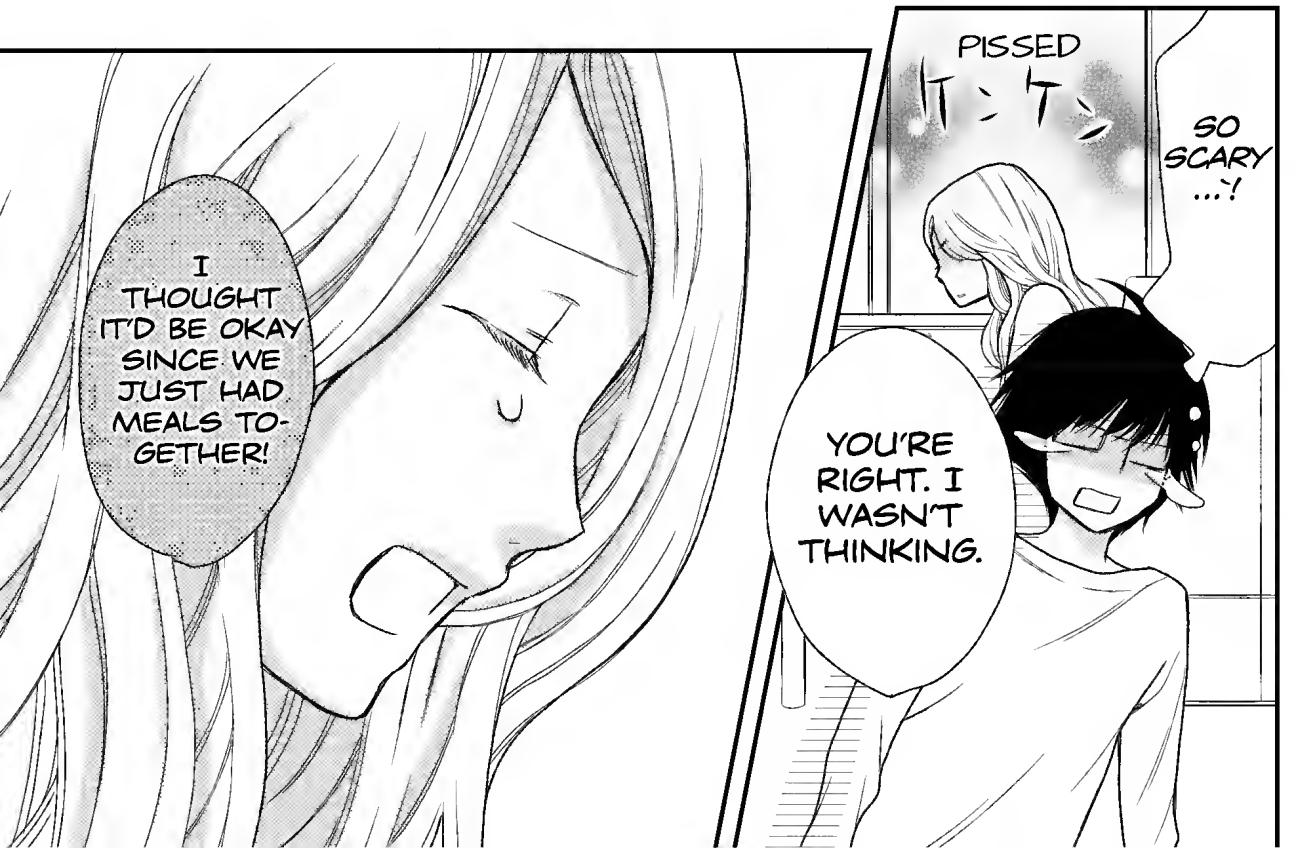

MR. TSUTSUI JUST EARNESTLY LISTENED TO ME WITHOUT SAYING ANYTHING...
PROBABLY BECAUSE HE HAD NOTHING TO SAY...
A-AND, WITH HIS UNRULY HAIR AND QUIRKS, I THOUGHT HE WAS A WONDERFUL PERSON.
UH, AND I THOUGHT THAT WORN OUT VIBE HE HAD WAS SO CUTE, TOO.
AND HIS VOICE SOUNDED NICE!

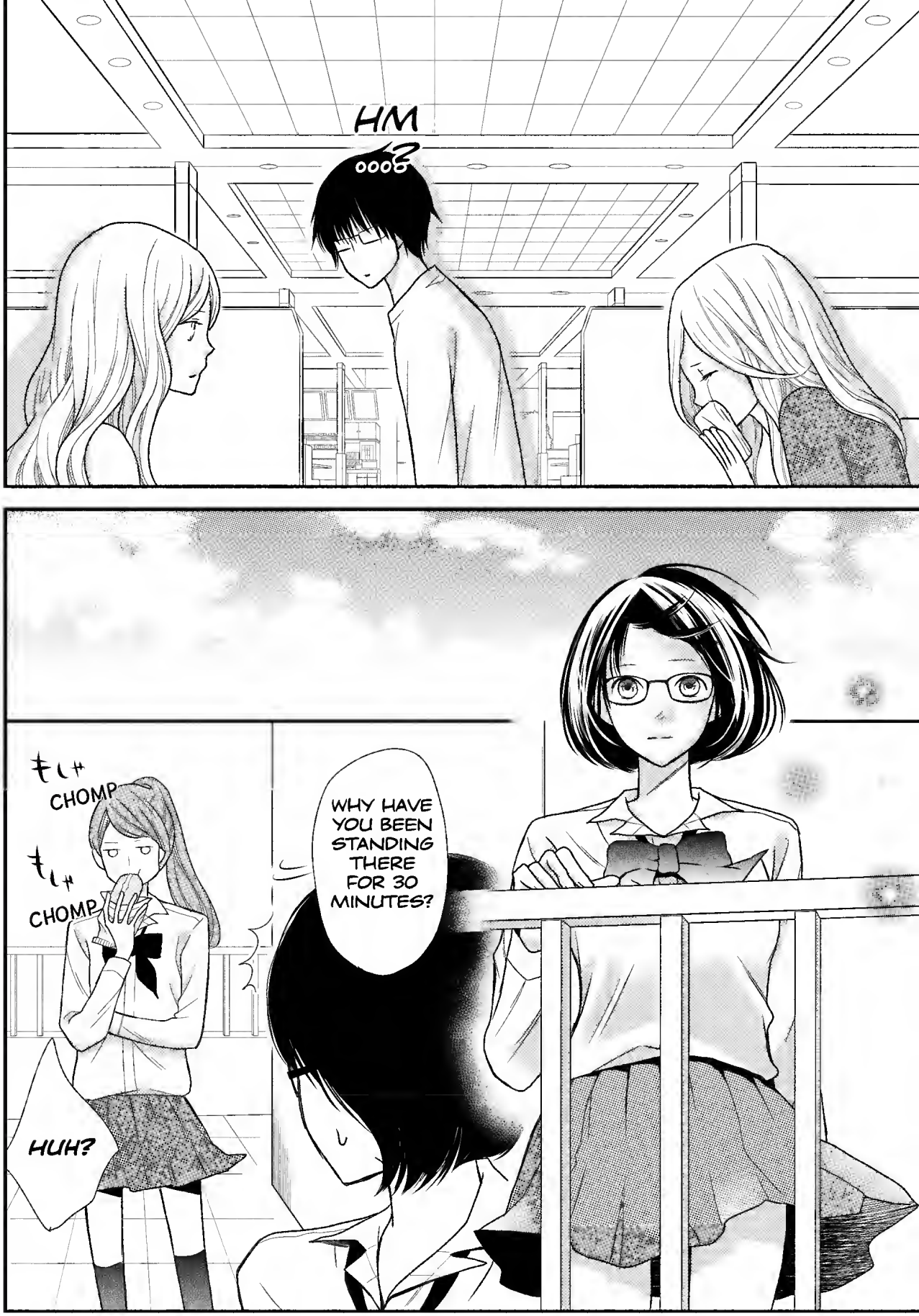

AND HE SURPRISINGLY LIKES SWEETS, HUH? DON'T YOU THINK THAT'S JUST SO CUTE?!
WHAT THE HECK DO YOU THINK YOU'RE SAYING?


GASP
YOU'RE RIGHT.
HOW OLD ARE YOU?
I'M 24. I'M SORRY...
I'M THE ONE WHO WANTS TO CRY.


MESSING AROUND WITH A MARRIED MAN...
AT YOUR AGE, WERE YOU UNABLE TO IMAGINE WHAT WOULD HAPPEN?


BUT I JUST HAD FEELINGS FOR MR. TSUTSUI! I COULDN'T STOP THINKING ABOUT HIM...!
YOU CAN'T BREAK UP A FAMILY JUST 'CAUSE YOU "HAVE FEELINGS" FOR SOMEONE!
うわあああ WAAAHHH
I'M SOOORRRY!
STOP CRYING!!


PISSED
ｲﾗｲﾗ
SO SCARY ...!
YOU'RE RIGHT. I WASN'T THINKING.
I THOUGHT IT'D BE OKAY SINCE WE JUST HAD MEALS TOGETHER!


HM
CHOMP
CHOMP
WHY HAVE YOU BEEN STANDING THERE FOR 30 MINUTES?
HUH?

ISHINO-SEMPAI!
BOTH YOU AND TSUTSUI! IT'S WORRISOME WATCHING YOU WALLOW IN YOUR DARK THOUGHTS OUT HERE, SO CUT IT OUT!
SORRY, I'M A BUSYBODY.
NO.
MY DOORS ARE ALWAYS OPEN TO YOU, ISHINO-SEMPAI.
Here you are.
I DIDN'T TURN DOWN ITO-SEMPAI...
HUH?
SO I HEARD YOU REJECTED ITO, AYADO-SAN?

All right!
SIT DOWN.
OKAY...
I...I ENDED UP MAKING HIM HATE ME...
WHILE MY MIND WAS ON AUTO-PILOT...
HE TOLD ME THAT I DON'T HAVE TO TALK TO HIM ANY-MORE.
I KEPT RUNNING AWAY FROM HIM, AND IT RUINED OUR FRIEND-SHIP.
HM?
YOU RAN AWAY FROM HIM? BUT YOU'RE UPSET THAT HE HATES YOU?
WHAT IS ITO TO YOU, EX-ACTLY?

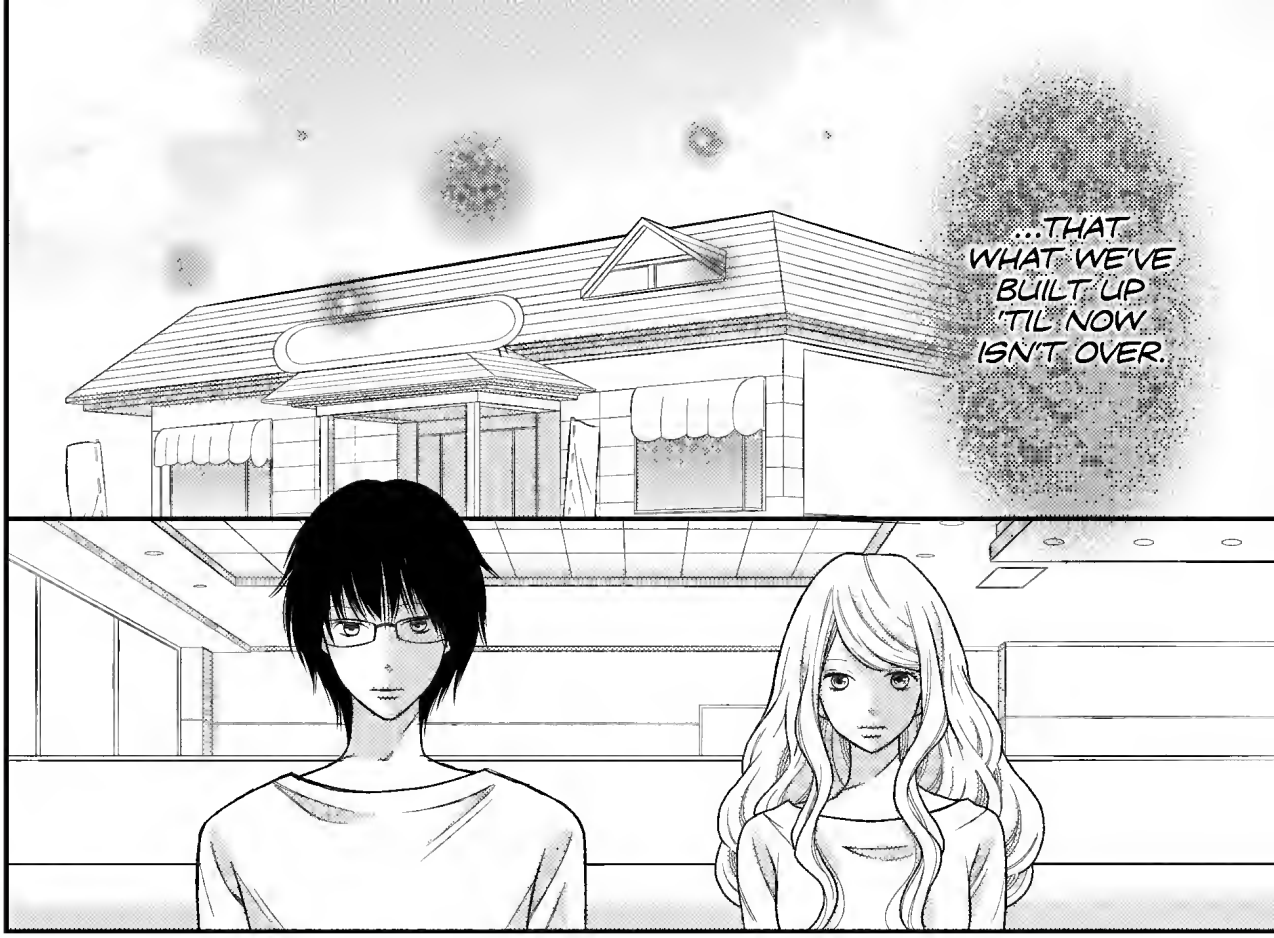
I DON'T KNOW...
HUH?
S... SO...
I GOT MY HEART BROKEN THE LAST TIME, SO I HAD NOTHING LEFT IN ME...
AND RIGHT AT THAT TIME, SOMEONE ELSE SAW ME AS THEIR LOVE INTEREST, AND I H-
SLAP
ACK!
ARE YOU A SOME KIND OF PREACHY TEXT-BOOK YOU IDIOT!
WHEN YOUR HEART IS BROKEN, THAT'S WHEN YOU GET BACK UP! WHY WOULD YOU BE ON AUTO-PILOT?!
SEIZE ALL THE HAPPI-NESS AROUND YOU!
DON'T ACT LIKE A GOOD LITTLE GIRL, YOU IDIOT!

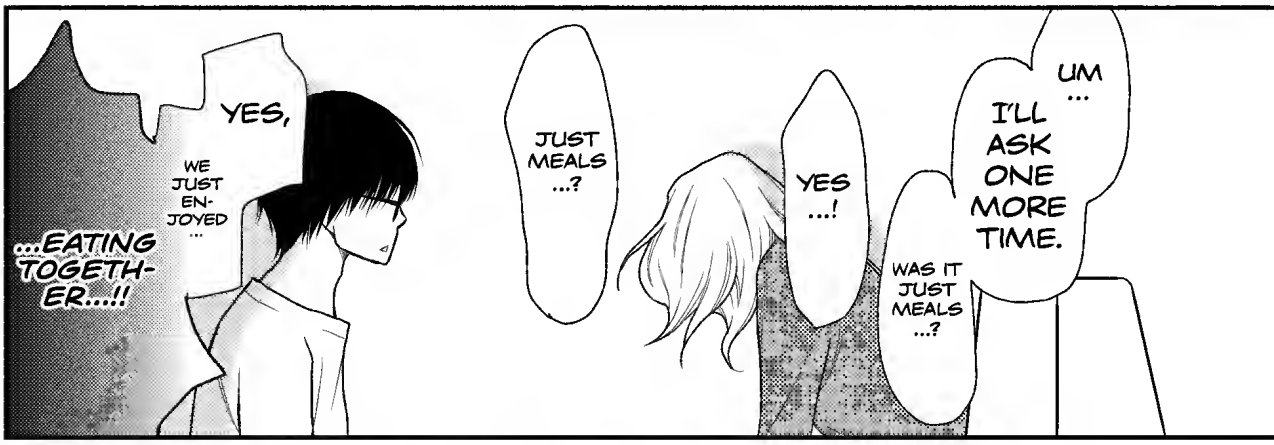
SOR-
RY...
DID
THAT
HURT?
NO
...
PLEASE
HIT ME
MORE
...!!
FOR
ME...
ITO-
SEMPAI
...
ITO-
SEMPAI
...

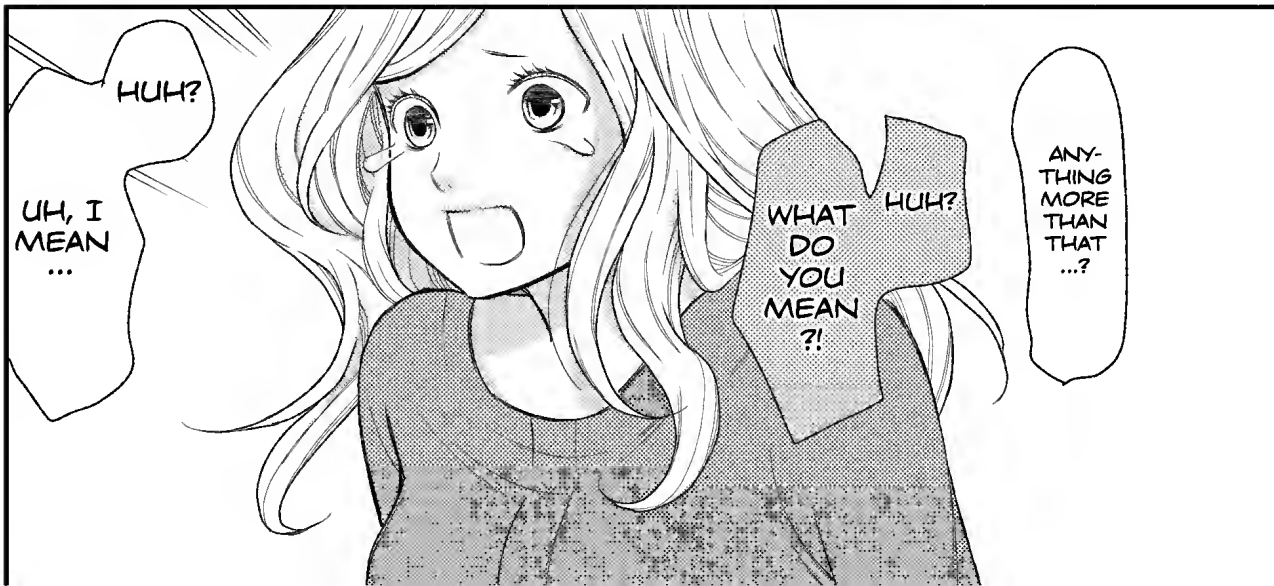
THE WHOLE TIME, I HAD FEELINGS FOR TSUTSUI-SEMPAI...
SINCE WHEN...
YOU'RE A DEAR FRIEND TO ME, AYADO-SAN...
WHEN DID YOU START HAVING FEELINGS FOR ME, SEMPAI?
SINCE WHEN DID YOU...
THANK YOU.
I SHOULD BE THE ONE THANKING YOU.
SORRY...
...FOR MAKING YOU FEEL UNCOM-FORTABLE.
...SUPPRESS YOUR OWN FEELINGS TO BE KIND TO ME?

WHY DID YOU LIKE ME?
I CAN'T EVEN TALK WITH HIM ANYMORE.
WHAT SHOULD I DO?
THAT'S A GOOD QUES-TION...
DO YOU THINK A PERSON CAN REALLY GO FROM LIKING TO HATING SOME-ONE SO QUICKLY?
HE MIGHT BE DOING IT SO HE DOESN'T WEIGH YOU DOWN ANY-MORE...
IT'S HIS LAST ACT OF KIND-NESS TO YOU.
WHY NOT TRUST IN THE RELATIONSHIP YOU'VE BUILT WITH ITO A LIT-TLE MORE?
Y...
YEAH... I...

I WANT TO TALK TO ITO-SEMPAI RIGHT NOW.
YEAH, GO TALK TO HIM.
B-BUT, I DON'T KNOW HOW TO EXPLAIN MYSELF, AND...
IT'S FINE!
IT DOESN'T MATTER, JUST TELL HIM HOW YOU FEEL!
BUT WHAT IF HE HATES ME?!
JUST GO!
OKAY!
I HOPE IT'S OKAY...
...TO STILL BE-LIEVE...


...THAT WHAT WE'VE BUILT UP 'TIL NOW ISN'T OVER.


UM ...
I'LL ASK ONE MORE TIME.
WAS IT JUST MEALS ...?
YES ...!
JUST MEALS ...?
YES,
WE JUST EN-JOYED ...
...EATING TOGETH-ER...!!

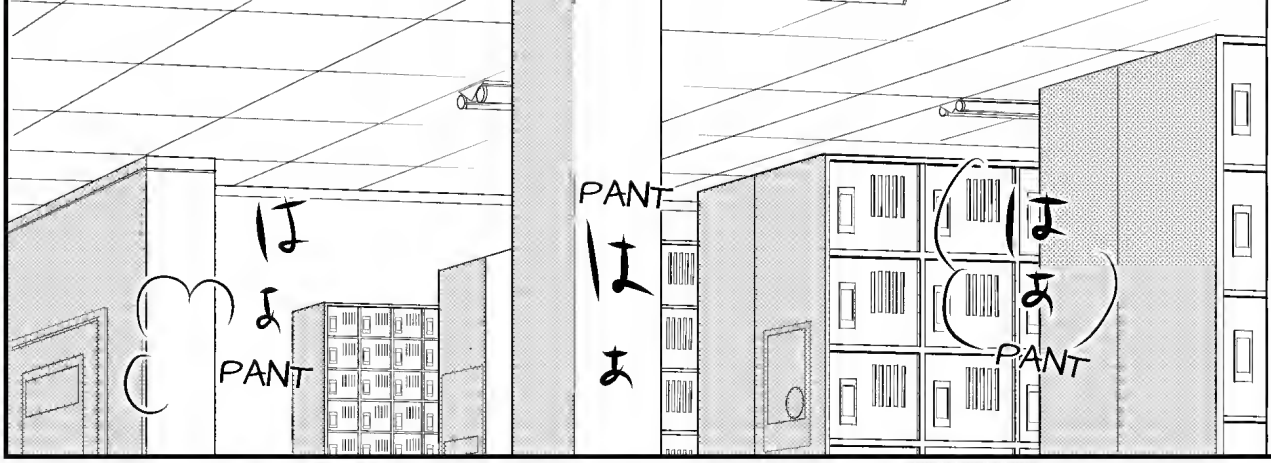

ANY-THING MORE THAN THAT ...?
HUH?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN ?!
HUH?
UH, I MEAN ...

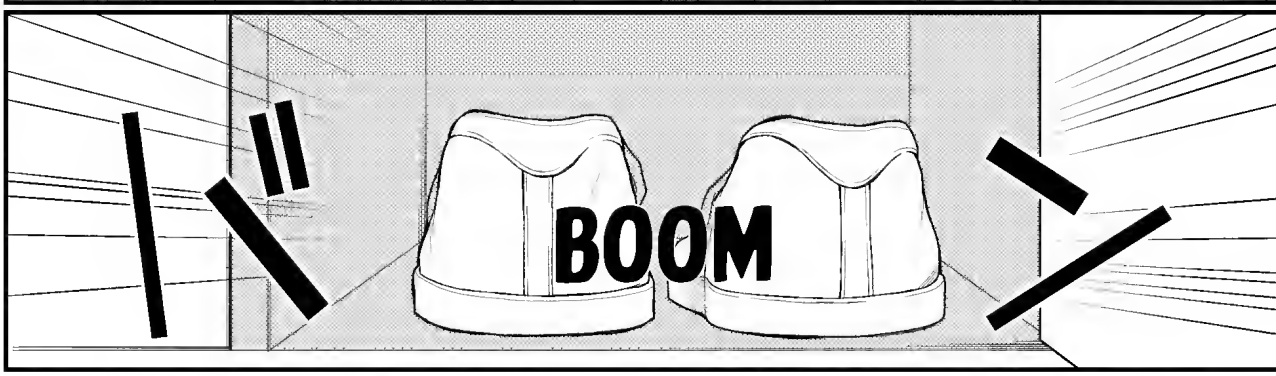
HE HAS A WIFE AND KIDS!!
LIKE...
DID YOU STAY OVER-NIGHT WITH HIM...?
OF COURSE I WOULDN'T DO SOMETHING LIKE THAT!
SLUMP
WE DIDN'T EVEN TOUCH EACH OTHER!
BUT WE'D ENJOY MEALS TOGETH-ER...
...AND SOME-TIMES, HE'D EVEN PAY!
I'M SOOO SOR-RY!!
WAAAHHH!
HUH ...?
UH...
SO... YOU WERE NEVER DATING MY DAD...
OF COURSE NOT! HE TURNED ME DOWN FLAT OUT FROM THE START!
BUT I WAS SO STUB-BORN ...
AND MR. TSUTSUI IS SO KIND THAT HE COULDN'T REFUSE.

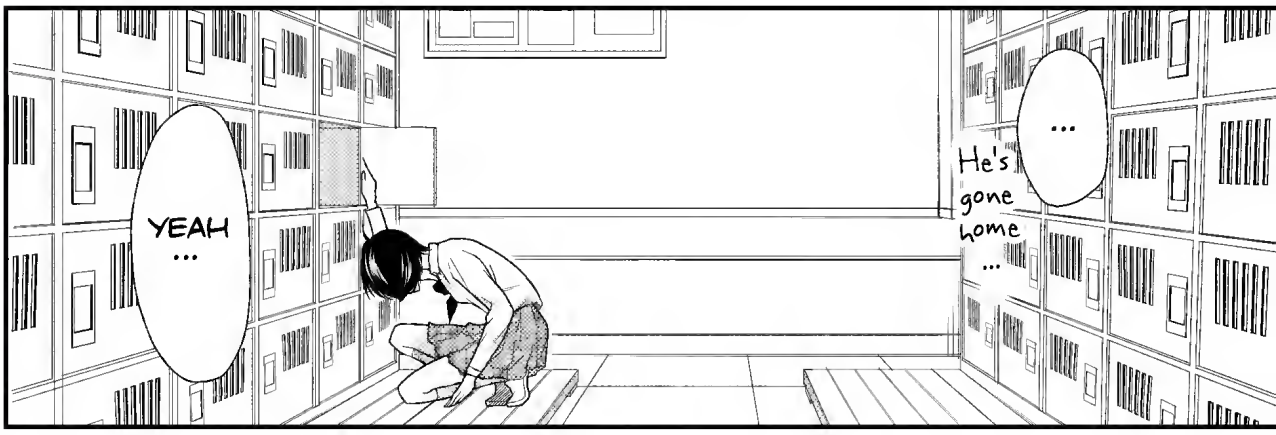
...OVER THAT!
...IF I HAD TO GO TO OSHA-MAMBE...
IT WOULD BE UNBEAR-ABLE...
WHAT?
I GUESS YOU CAN SAY...
WOW, THANK GOOD-NESS ...?
UH...
I'M SOR-RY...
...FOR GETTING WORKED UP...
YOU COULD'VE SAID SOME-THING, DAD...
SNIFF
SNIFF

episode★31

The story about my parents' secret romance







For the eighth volume, I decided to mix things up and go with this cover. At the meeting, I was super pumped to give this kind of cover a shot, but I quickly felt the pressure of the rough draft not going well and getting rejected. So I worked hard while sweating over it! I'm relieved the cover got the OK! I'm hoping this cover will make Tsutsui feel closer to you. Badump badump...

Anyway, thanks for reading this section in spite of my messy handwriting! I hope to see you in the ninth volume.

My drunkard journal and daily ramblings →

ameblo.jp/nanamima/

twitter ⓐ mao_nanami

STILL...
WHAT THE HECK AM I TRYING TO TELL ITO-SEMPAI, ANYWAY?
...I WANT TO SEE HIM.
LET'S SEE...
I'LL HAVE THE GRATED PLUM THIS TIME...
OH! THERE HE IS!
OKAY!
ONE GRATED PLUM COMING UP!!
OH, HIKARI AND IROHA-SAN...
NO WAY, HOW MUCH TAKOYAKI ARE YOU EATING?

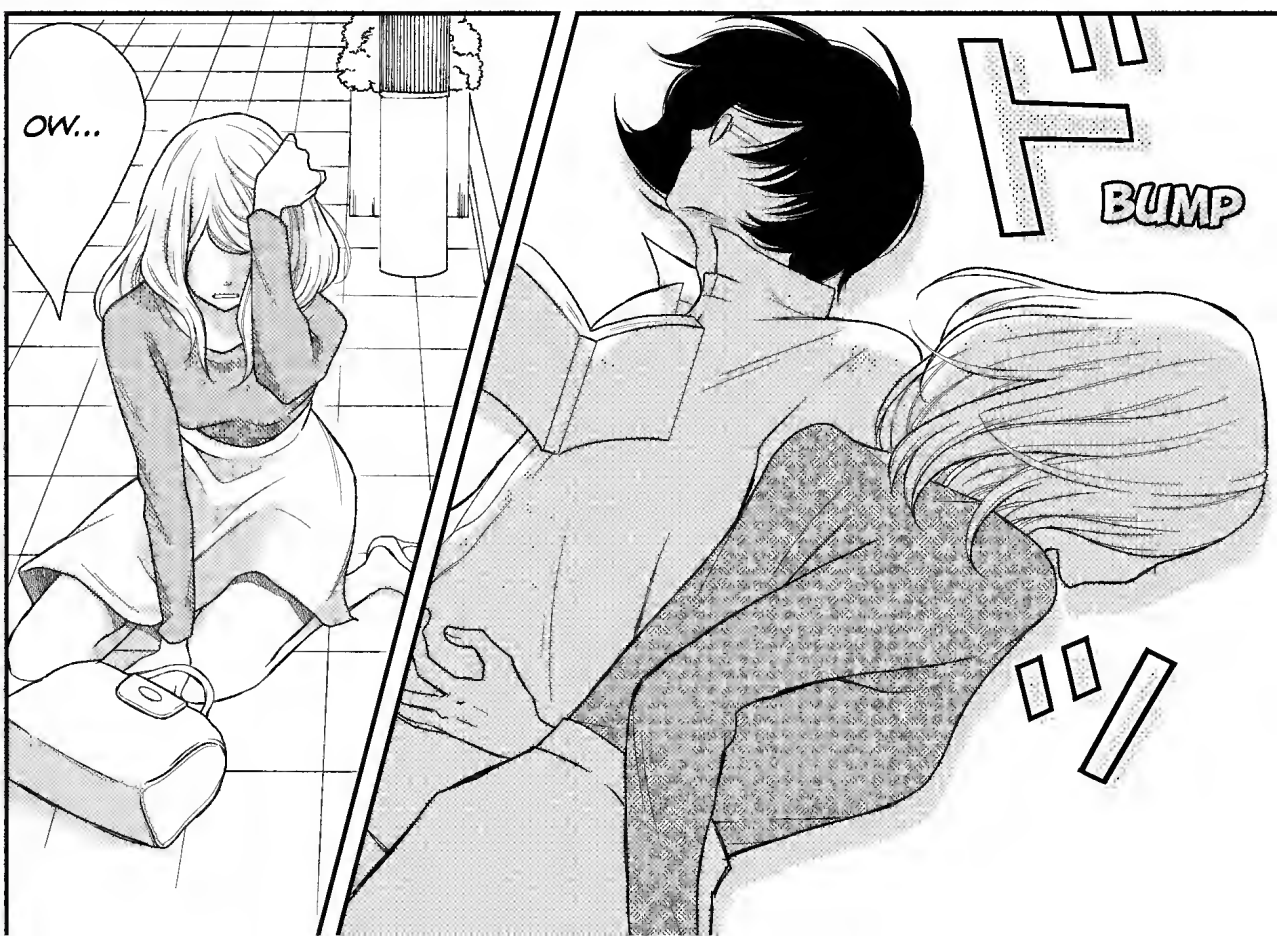
HUH ...?
NEVER MIND THAT. I HAVE TO TALK TO YOU!
WELL...I CAN'T COOK AT HOME NOW, SO...

IF MOM WAS HOME, IT WOULD'VE BEEN A CATASTRO-PHE!
KOUNO-SAN VISITED OUR HOUSE...?

MM...
IT'S A HUGE BOTHER FOR EVERY-ONE!
ALSO, SHE SAID YOU ONLY HAD MEALS WITH HER.
DON'T LET SOMETHING LIKE THAT BLOW UP INTO A HUGE PROBLEM!

BUT THAT STILL DOESN'T CHANGE THE FACT THAT I BETRAYED YOUR MOTHER.
IF YOUR MOTHER DOESN'T LIKE IT, THEN EVEN HAVING MEALS IS BEING UN-FAITHFUL.
YOU DON'T THINK ANYTHING OF THAT WOMAN, DO YOU?
THAT'S NOT TRUE...
KOUNO-SAN...
...IS A WONDERFUL WOMAN WHO HELPED ME REDISCOVER WHAT LOVE IS.
HUH ...?
BUT SHE SAID YOU REJECTED HER.
THAT'S RIGHT.
KOUNO-SAN HELPED ME REMEMBER WHAT LOVE REALLY IS.
SHE HELPED ME REALIZE THAT I STILL LOVE YOUR MOTHER.

MITSURU TSUTSUI, 20 YEARS AGO
STOP! I'M GOING HOME.
HUH?
HOLD ON?
C'MON! I DIDN'T MEAN IT LIKE THAT!
UGH!
DON'T FOLLOW ME!
TAKEYA
TAKEYA DINNERS
BIG ECO
ICHIMI


OW...
BUMP

UH...
I...
I'M SORRY...
EEK!
NOT AT ALL...
WOBBLE
M...
MY FAVORITE SHOES...
IT'S THAT JERK'S FAULT...
THIS IS NOT MY DAY...

HERE ...
LET ME HAVE A LOOK...
HUH?
OH.
REST YOUR FOOT HERE.

ARE YOU ...
NO.
...A SHOE-MAKER?
I GUESS YOU CAN SAY I'M...
...A GLUE-MAKER.
HMM ...
That's quite an un-usual job.
THERE.
IT SHOULD BE OKAY FOR NOW.

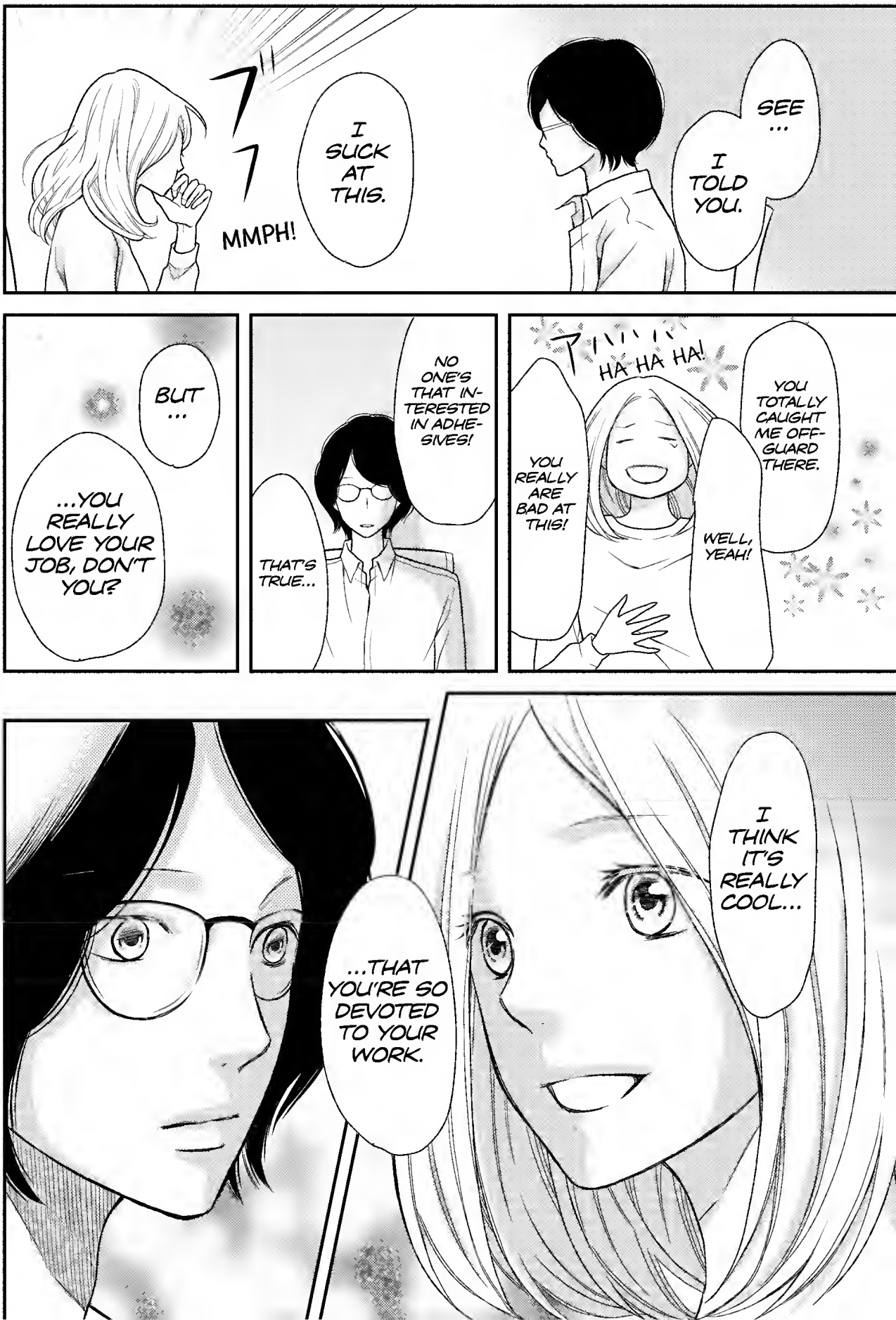
LET ME TREAT YOU TO DINNER AS A THANK YOU SOME-TIME...
WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
Sign: Izakaya
TH...
THANKS.
SEE YA.
HUH ...?
...AND I HAVE A LOT OF NIGHT SHIFTS.
I DON'T HAVE MUCH FREE TIME...
IT'S OKAY.

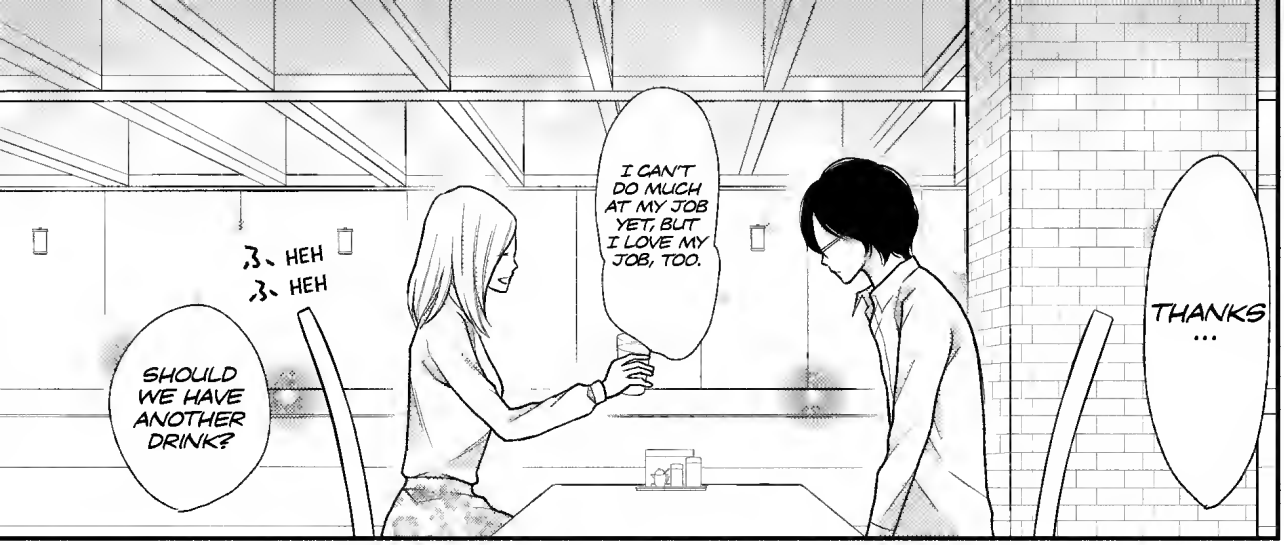
I want to let off some steam!!
SOME-PLACE OLD-FASHIONED SOUNDS NICE.
WHERE DO YOU WANT TO GO FOR DRINKS TODAY?
HUH?
YOU'RE SO LUCKY THAT THE MANAGER LIKES YOU, KIE!
OH, DON'T BE RIDICU-LOUS!
MY LAB ...
...IS IN THAT BUILD-ING...
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
THE GLUE-MAKER!
YOU'RE THE...
...SHOE-MAKER, OR RATH-ER...

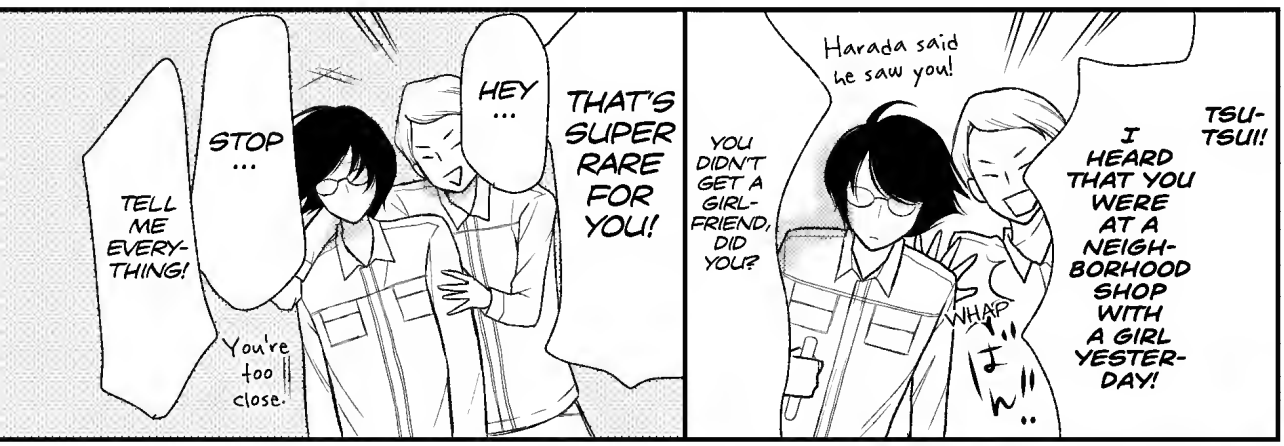
NO WAY! YOU WORK IN THIS AREA!
ARE YOU OFF WORK TODAY?
YEAH.
I WAS GONNA GO HOME AFTER I FINISH THIS PAGE...
WHO'S THAT? YOUR NEW BOY-FRIEND, KIE?
OH, STOP IT!
I'M GONNA HAVE TO TAKE A PASS TODAY.
HEY,
LET'S GET SOME-THING TO EAT.
IF YOU JUST FINISHED WORK, YOU MUST BE HUNGRY.
Le Restaurant
MEN
...
カチャ CLINK
カチャ CLINK
UM...

HEY...
DO YOU HAVE SOME POLICY OF NOT SPEAKING WHILE YOU EAT...?
HUH?
NO, NOT REALLY...
WE'RE, LIKE...
SHOULDN'T YOU TRY HARDER TO MAKE CONVERSATION?
...EATING TOGETHER FOR THE FIRST TIME!
I...
SORRY...
...DON'T REALLY EAT OUT WITH GIRLS, SO...
I'M A LITTLE NERVOUS...
WELL...IS IT INTERESTING, RESEARCHING ADHESIVES?

IT SURE IS!
THERE ARE ACTUALLY 500 DIFFERENT KINDS OF ADHESIVES, AND IT'S QUITE A DEEP SUBJECT.
SOME WERE ORIGINALLY USED FOR MEDICAL TREATMENT, BUT...
...IF YOU TRACE IT BACK TO ORIGINS, SOME KINDS OF ADHESIVES ACTUALLY DATE BACK TO THE STONE AGE!
That's why they stick to the skin so easily.
THERE ARE THREE TYPES OF ADHESIVE STRUCTURES...
PHYSICAL BONDS, CHEMICAL BONDS, AND MECHANICAL BONDS.
THE BOND I USED TO RE-ATTACH YOUR HEEL THE OTHER DAY WAS...
...


SEE...
I TOLD YOU.
I SUCK AT THIS.
MMPH!
HA HA HA!
YOU TOTALLY CAUGHT ME OFF-GUARD THERE.
WELL, YEAH!
YOU REALLY ARE BAD AT THIS!
NO ONE'S THAT INTERESTED IN ADHESIVES!
THAT'S TRUE...
BUT...
...YOU REALLY LOVE YOUR JOB, DON'T YOU?
I THINK IT'S REALLY COOL...
...THAT YOU'RE SO DEVOTED TO YOUR WORK.

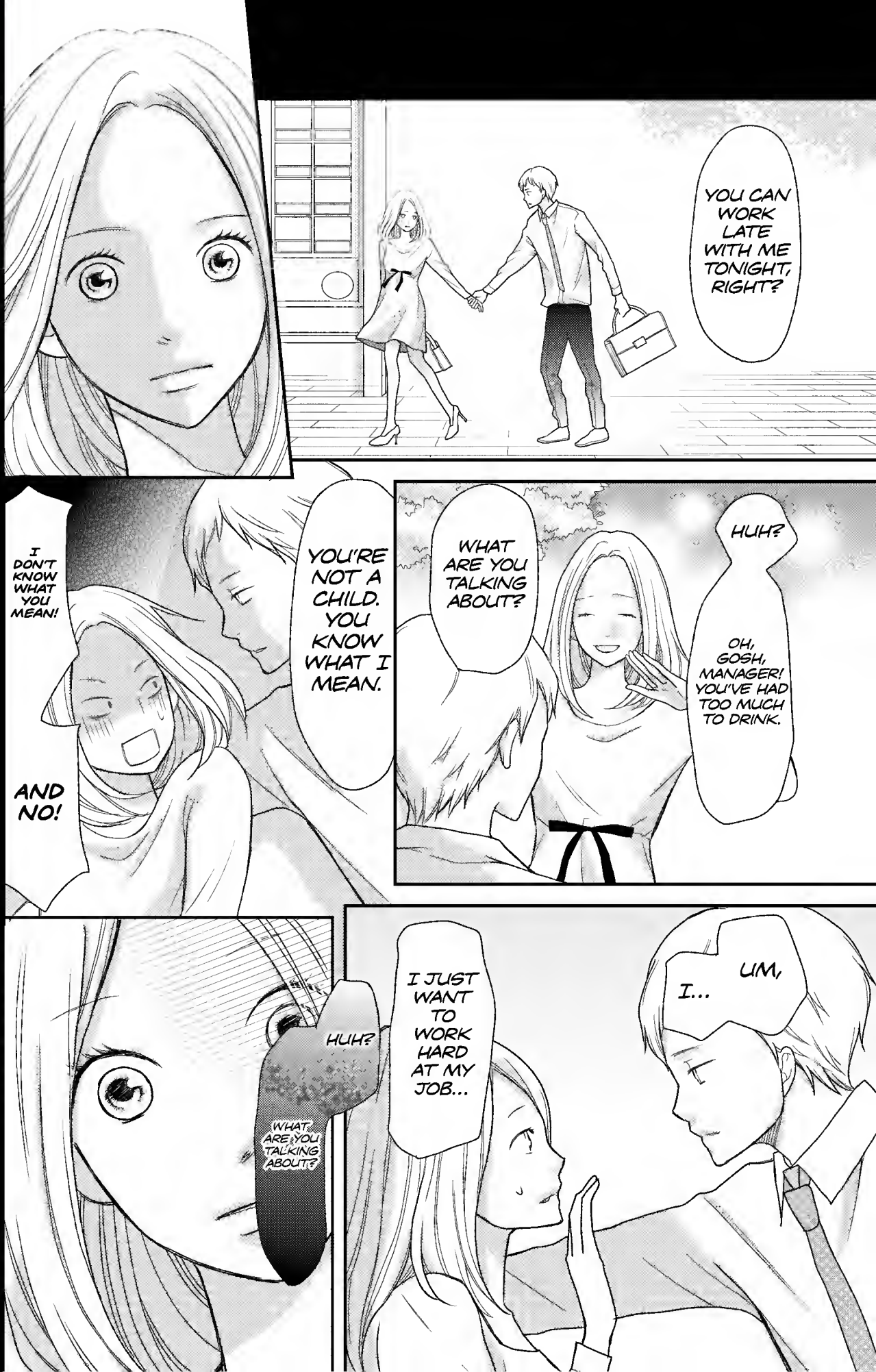

I CAN'T DO MUCH AT MY JOB YET, BUT I LOVE MY JOB, TOO.
THANKS...
HEH HEH
SHOULD WE HAVE ANOTHER DRINK?

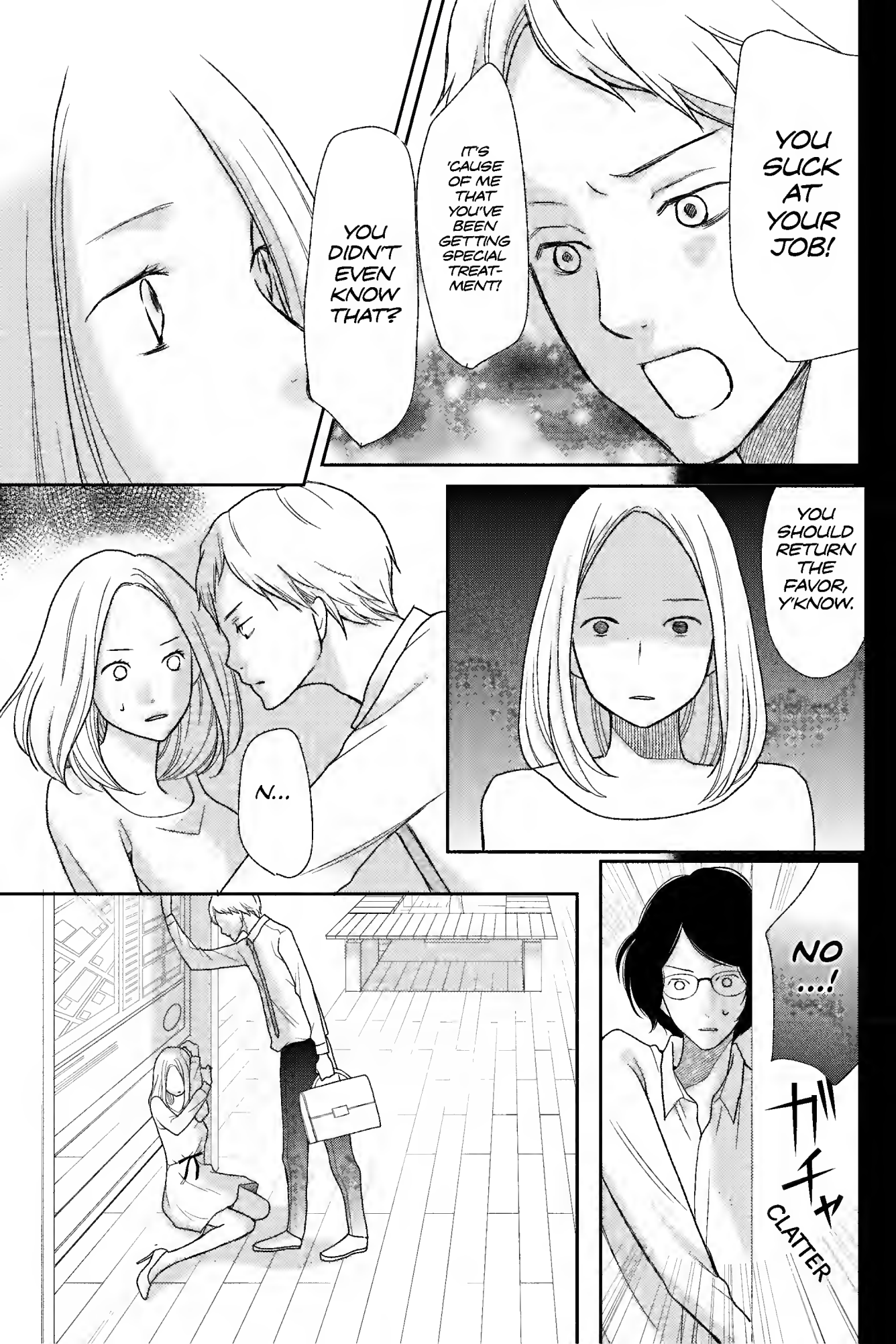

HEY...
THAT'S SUPER RARE FOR YOU!
STOP...
TELL ME EVERY-THING!
You're too close.
Harada said he saw you!
YOU DIDN'T GET A GIRL-FRIEND, DID YOU?
WHAP
TSU-TSU!!
I HEARD THAT YOU WERE AT A NEIGH-BORHOOD SHOP WITH A GIRL YESTER-DAY!

THERE ISN'T...
...REALLY ANY-THING...
...GOING ON.

YEAH...
I MEAN...
I DON'T EVEN KNOW HER LAST NAME.
...AND I DON'T KNOW WHEN I'LL GET TO SEE HER AGAIN.
IF SHE HADN'T BROKEN HER SHOE...
AND I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT HER EXCEPT THAT HER OFFICE IS IN THE AREA...
KER-CHAK
MANAGER, THANK YOU FOR DINNER!
...WE WOULDN'T EVEN HAVE HAD DINNER.
THAT'S ALL OUR RELATION-SHIP IS...

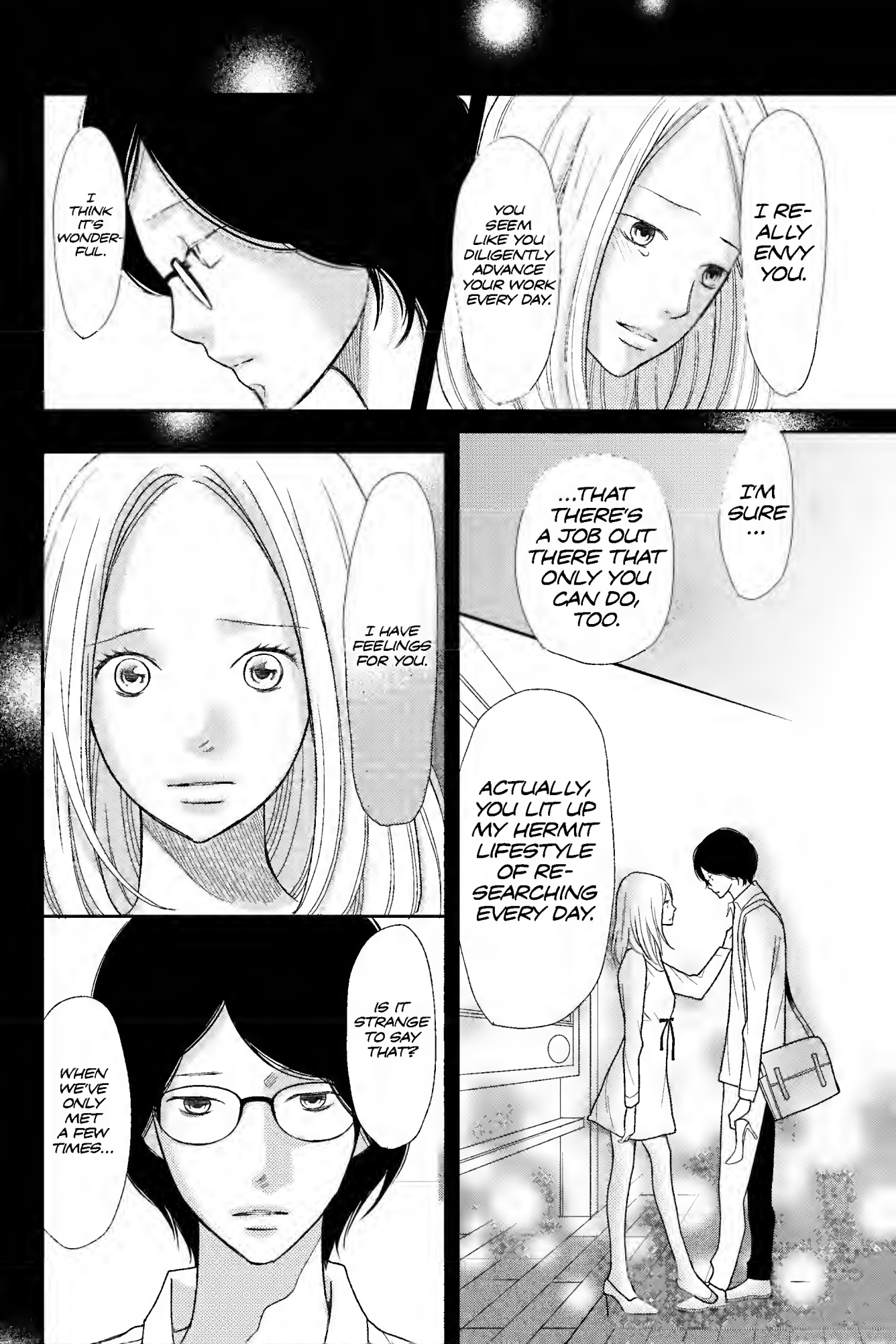
FWIP
HA HA HA!
THANKS!
YOU'RE WORTH IT, UCHIDA-SAN.
SINCE YOU EAT AND DRINK A LOT.
OF COURSE, I'LL CONTINUE TO GIVE YOU GUIDANCE, UCHIDA-SAN.
NO,
I STILL HAVE A LONG WAY TO GO.
YOU'VE BEEN WORKING REALLY HARD THESE DAYS, HUH?


YOU CAN WORK LATE WITH ME TONIGHT, RIGHT?
HUH?
OH, GOSH, MANAGER! YOU'VE HAD TOO MUCH TO DRINK.
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
YOU'RE NOT A CHILD. YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN.
I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU MEAN!
AND NO!
UM, I...
I JUST WANT TO WORK HARD AT MY JOB...
HUH?
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?


YOU SUCK AT YOUR JOB!
IT'S 'CAUSE OF ME THAT YOU'VE BEEN GETTING SPECIAL TREAT-MENT!
YOU DIDN'T EVEN KNOW THAT?
YOU SHOULD RETURN THE FAVOR, Y'KNOW.
N...
NO ...!
ガチャ
CLATTER

STARTING TOMORROW, I DON'T EXPECT TO SEE YOU.
OH ...
NOT AGAIN ...
LET ME TAKE A LOOK.
GREAT ...

WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE ...?
OH, YOU WORK IN THIS BUILDING, RIGHT ...?
I DIDN'T KNOW THINGS WERE LIKE THAT FOR YOU.
SORRY YOU WERE STUCK IN THAT SITUATION.
YOU KEEP CATCHING ME IN THESE WEIRD MOMENTS, HUH?
R-REST YOUR FOOT HERE.
I...
...IT TURNS OUT I WAS GOOD FOR NOTH-ING.
MY WORK IS HALF A PERSON'S SHARE, AND I THOUGHT I WAS DOING A GOOD JOB.
I'M SO EMBAR-RASSED.


I REALLY ENVY YOU.
YOU SEEM LIKE YOU DILIGENTLY ADVANCE YOUR WORK EVERY DAY.
I THINK IT'S WONDERFUL.
I'M SURE...
...THAT THERE'S A JOB OUT THERE THAT ONLY YOU CAN DO, TOO.
ACTUALLY, YOU LIT UP MY HERMIT LIFESTYLE OF RESEARCHING EVERY DAY.
I HAVE FEELINGS FOR YOU.
IS IT STRANGE TO SAY THAT?
WHEN WE'VE ONLY MET A FEW TIMES...

...
NO.
AND SO...
YOUR MOTHER AND I BEGAN OUR RELATIONSHIP FROM THERE, AND GOT MARRIED.
YOUR MOTHER SAID THAT SHE LIKED ME FOR MY WORK...
...SO I STEADILY DEVOTED MYSELF MORE AND MORE TO IT.
LOOKING BACK, I REALIZE YOUR MOTHER WAS SOME-WHAT DISTANT.
あはは
HA HA HA HA
LIKE I HAD FADED INTO THE PERIPH-ERY...

YOU LOVE MOM, DON'T YOU?!
CAN'T YOU GET THAT BACK WITH SOME TIME?!
SO?
ARE YOU JUST GONNA GIVE UP?
TSU-TSUN ...
I WON'T GIVE UP ON IROHA!
WHICH I'M NOT, BUT STILL!
EVEN IF I GO TO HOK-KAIDO...
SHE'S RIGHT BESIDE YOU, SO DON'T LET HER GO!
IT'S THE SAME THING!
I'M GLAD YOU SAY THAT, BUT OUR PROBLEM WILL BE PHYSICAL DISTANCE ...

I SEE...
IROHA-SAN...
YOU SAID THAT YOU OFTEN BUMPED HEADS WITH HIKARI AND MADE UP WITH HIM.
I DIDN'T THINK HIKARI WOULD BE SO UPSET WITH ME.
IT'S EVIDENT THAT YOU BOTH REFLECT ON YOUR RELATION-SHIP...
...AND WALK TO-GETHER, SIDE BY SIDE.
THANK YOU.
I'M GON-NA...
...GO TO YOUR MOTHER ONE MORE TIME.

UH ...
Yeah. I'm gonna drop by the game store...
Ito, it's rare to see you taking the bus.
波高前
Sign: Nanami High Bus Stop
ITO-SEMPAI!!
To ...
VRM;

VROOM...
RUSTLE...
HE...
...COM-
PLETELY
HATES
ME.
CAW
CAW
HONEY.

DON'T RUN AWAY.

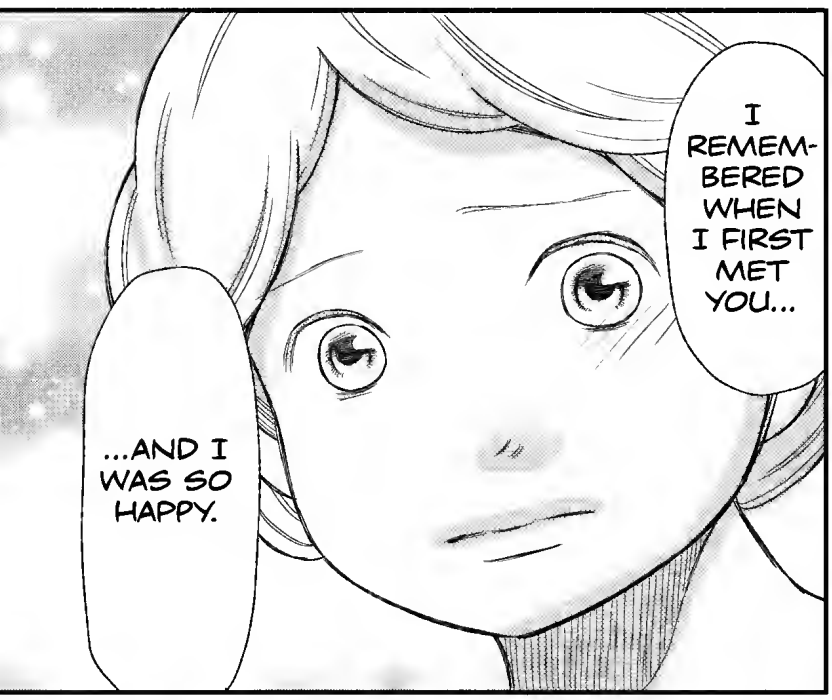
LISTEN.
I WANT TO TALK TO YOU.

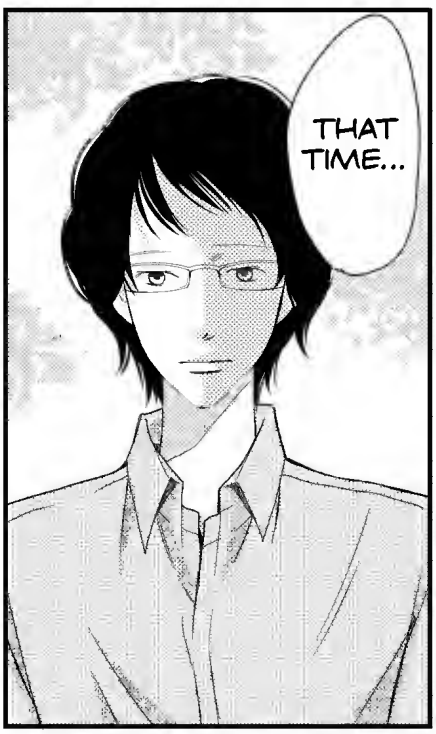
THREE MONTHS AGO...
...I RECEIVED DINNER TICKETS FROM A COLLEAGUE.
Mr. Tsutsui, I can't go to this dinner anymore...
And I had reserved a table three months in advance!!

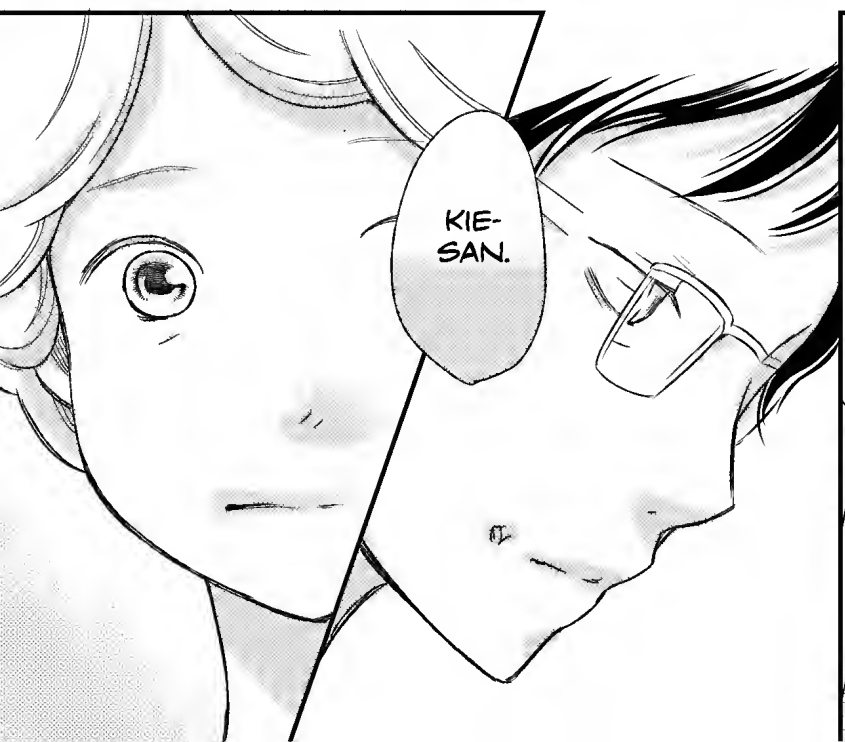
IT'S BEEN AWHILE SINCE I'VE TAKEN MY WIFE TO DINNER...
I'M HOME...
AHEM
コホン
HONEY, I HAVE TWO...
THE 23RD?! I'M TOTALLY FREE! MORI-SAN'S BIRTHDAY PARTY?
MY HUSBAND? HE'S NEVER HOME AND ALWAYS AT WORK!
HE DOESN'T CARE ABOUT ME AT ALL!
Ha ha! But still, It's the best
Having the house all to myself! Ha ha ha! Ha ha ha!
WHAT SHOULD I DO ABOUT THESE TICKETS...?
UM, UH...
MR. TSU-TSUI!!
I...I'D LIKE TO TALK TO YOU ONE MORE TIME.
ARE YOU FREE TODAY?!
I AM.
HUH?!

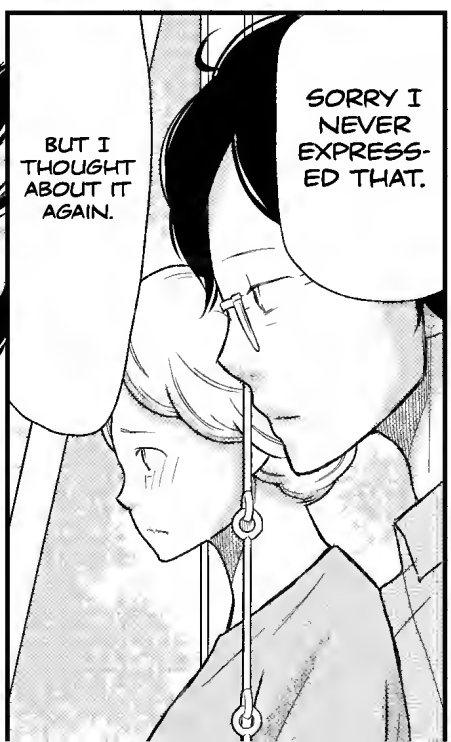
NO...
I'M JUST A BORING MIDDLE-AGED MAN...
YOU'RE QUITE STRANGE ...
I ENDED UP WORKING AT THIS LAB BY CHANCE ...
...BUT WHEN I SAW YOU WORK... IT INSPIRED ME TO DO MY BEST.
THAT'S NOT TRUE AT ALL!
I WASN'T PARTICULARLY INTERESTING BACK WHEN I WAS YOUNGER, EITHER...
...SO IN LOVE AND DEVOTED TO YOUR WORK!
I THINK IT'S SO COOL THAT YOU'RE ...

THANKS ...


I REMEMBERED WHEN I FIRST MET YOU...
...AND I WAS SO HAPPY.

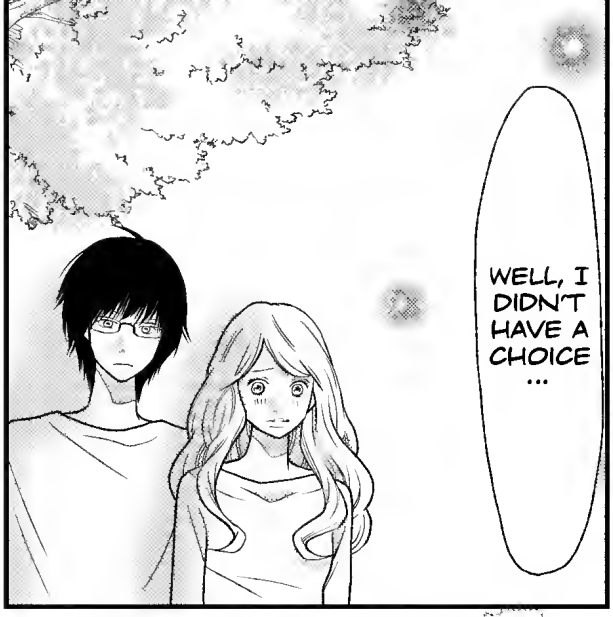

THAT TIME...


KIE-SAN.

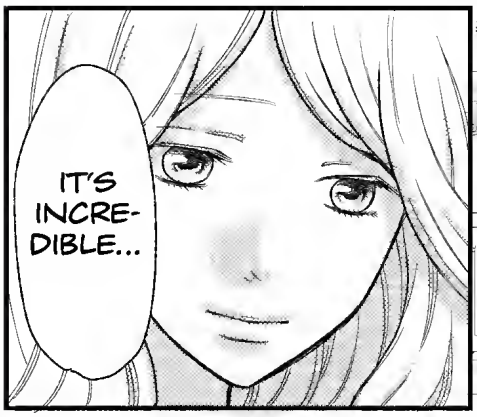

BUT I THOUGHT ABOUT IT AGAIN.
SORRY I NEVER EXPRESSED THAT.

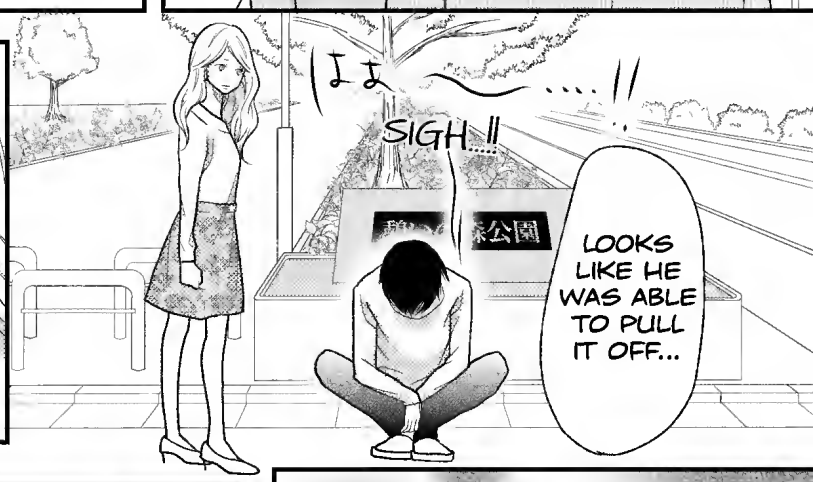
SINCE THE DAY I MET YOU...
...I'VE NEVER STOPPED LOVING YOU.
YOU ALWAYS NEGLECT-ED ME...!
YEAH.
I'M SORRY.

I WANT TO BE THERE TO FIX YOUR SHOES AGAIN.
BUT ...
FROM NOW ON, I WANT TO BE BY YOUR SIDE, KIE...
AND WHEN YOU'RE IN TROU-BLE...
YOU CAN BE SO SMOOTH!
ドス
WHAP
YOU IDIOT!
ｸﾞﾌｯ
OOF!
WILL YOU COME HOME WITH ME?

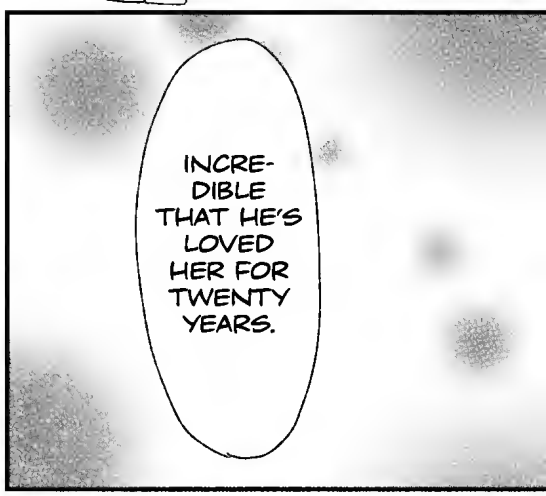

WELL, I DIDN'T HAVE A CHOICE ...

I GOT YOU TAKOYAKI AS WELL, DEAR.
HAVE YOU BEEN EATING THAT FOR DIN-NER?
MY GOD ...


IT'S INCRE-DIBLE...


はぁ～....//
SIGH...//
公園
LOOKS LIKE HE WAS ABLE TO PULL IT OFF...

...THAT I'M GOING TO LOVE YOU FOR TWENTY YEARS.
WELL, I KNOW...


INCRE-DIBLE THAT HE'S LOVED HER FOR TWENTY YEARS.

WE MAY HAVE ONLY BEEN TO-GETHER FOR SIX MONTHS...
...BUT I THINK I HAVE IT IN ME TO LOVE YOU FOR TWENTY YEARS.
HEY, ARE YOU CRYING?
OF COURSE I AM, YOU IDIOT!
HO-NEST-LY...
YOU...
YOU CAN BE SMOOTH WITH YOUR WORDS AT TIMES, TOO...
UM...
Like the Italians do?
WOULD YOU PREFER I SAY IT EVERY DAY?
NO...
IT'S FINE...

WHAT'S THE MATTER,
AYADO-SAN...?

SHOVE
DON'T "WHAT'S THE MATTER" ME!
WHY HAVE YOU BEEN IGNORING ME?
WHY WOULD YOU SAY IT'S OKAY NOT TO TALK TO EACH OTHER ANYMORE?
WHY...

TO BE CONTINUED IN VOLUME 9!!

Real Girl 8

KODANSHA COMICS Digital Edition

Real Girl volume 8 copyright © 2014 Mao Nanami
English translation copyright © 2017 Mao Nanami

All rights reserved.

First published in Japan in 2014by Kodansha Ltd., Tokyo.
Electronic Publishing rights for this English edition arranged through Kodansha Ltd., Tokyo.

No portion of this book may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means without written permission from the copyright holders.

English digital edition published by Kodansha Advanced Media, LLC, San Francisco.

www.kodanshacomics.com

ISBN: 9781682339152

Digital Edition: 1.0.0

Translation by David Rhie
Lettering by Allen Berry
Editing by Sarah Tilson
YKS Services LLC/SKY Japan, INC.